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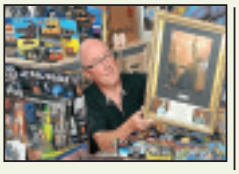

A HEAD FOR HEIGHTS A MUST ON PYLONS
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Ex-policeman Reg Lees

Tributes pour in for stalwart of bowls scene

TRIBUTES were paid this week to one of the founding members of a popular bowling club in Walsall.

Reg Lees of Pelsall CA Bowling Club passed away peacefully aged 84 and was was described as a "true gentleman" by family and friends.

Mr Lees was a former president and chairman of the Station Road bowling club and was actively involved in its foundation in 1966. Today, it has around 140 members.

Mr Lees' wife Betty, aged 82, of Mill Road, Pelsall, said: "Reg was a real gentleman."He was very kind and patient. He was well-known in the Pelsall area. He didn't push himself forward but everyone who has spoken to me has said what a nice gentleman he was."

The couple celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on March 17 this year after meeting at a dance in the late 1940s.

Generous

Mr Lees grew up in Pelsall and was the son of Bobby Lees, who worked as a Pelsall village policeman during the war years.

Reg served as a military policeman with the South Staffordshire Regiment during the Second World War. His service took him to India where he was a guard at the imprisonment of Ghandi and Nehru during riots there.

As well as bowling, Mr Lees was passionate about model steam trains and was a member of the Rugeley Model Engineering Society.

Mr Lees, who worked as an engineer at Paddock Fabrications in Leamore Lane, also enjoyed gardening and was a keen animal lover.

Friend and current Pelsall Bowling Club president Ralph Broad paid tribute to a "well-known and well-liked" member of the club.

"Reg was a real gentleman and was very generous and well-liked," he said.

"He was softly spoken and never ever lost his temper. He was always involved in the bowling club right from when it first started."

Mr Lees served as a committee member from 1970, was chairman from 1973 to 1988 and president from 1994 until earlier this year when he stood down due to ill health.

A funeral service will be held at Streetly Crematorium at 10am on Monday, August 1. Donations can be sent to Rosedene Rescue Centre, in Radley Road, Rushall.

Grit bins may go – to thwart thieves

GRIT bins could be removed from streets in Walsall this winter to stop thieves plundering them for salt during bad weather.

Council chiefs are instead looking at using smaller gritting vehicles to access routes which are hit by icy conditions.

The possibility of reducing the number of grit bins comes after Walsall and other parts of the region suffered at the hands of thieves. Last year, salt and bins were stolen from Coalpool, Darlaston and Streetly in the borough.

In Walsall, they are usually positioned at around 170 sites in critical points close to hills and sharp bends during bad weather.

However, the option of cutting down on the number of bins and using smaller vehicles to grit roads which have previously been inaccessible is now being considered as an alternative.

Treacherous

More than £440,000 has been spent on new vehicles in the borough to repair potholes and also double up as gritters in ice and snow.

Transport chief Councillor Tom Ansell said: "Every year we work hard with our partners Tarmac to help keep the traffic moving during treacherous conditions at winter.

"To improve the winter maintenance delivery Tarmac have invested in a new fleet. We have four new gritters delivered and have two on order.

"There is a scrutiny working party reviewing the winter service."

HIV VICTIM IN TORMENT

A WALSALL woman infected with HIV by Nkosinathi Mabanda has branded him 'scum' and said he should have been locked up for life.

Mabanda was this week starting a four-year jail term after admitting a charge of inflicting grievous bodily harm.

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

The 44-year-old, formerly of Cannock but now living in Tixall Road, Stafford, will serve an extra 12 months on parole after his release and be considered for deportation by the secretary of state.

He was also handed an Anti-Social Behaviour Order prohibiting him from engaging in sexual activity with any person without first disclosing he has HIV.

His victim, who cannot be named for legal reasons but lives in Darlaston, today said her life had been changed forever. "He should have been given life because that's the sentence he has given to me," she said.

"He's just scum. I hope he's deported because I hate him.

Betting

"I'm on medication now for the rest of my life."

Wolverhampton Crown Court was told on Monday that Mabanda tested positive for HIV in 2004, shortly after moving to the UK from Zimbabwe with his wife. They later separated.

Mr David Swinnerton, prosecuting, said he had fathered four children by women other than his wife and admitted having sex with nine woman while in the UK – including five without protection.

"He accepts he had not told them of his HIV status."

The relationship with the victim started after they met at a betting shop but it was years later when she discovered he had HIV.

Nkosinathi Mabanda on his way to court in Wolverhampton before being sent to prison

Do not fear prejudice, pleads trust

LISA Power, policy director for the Terence Higgins Trust, said after this week's court hearing: "Most people who know they have HIV make every effort to avoid passing the virus on.

"However, around a quarter are unaware they could be passing it on as they haven't tested, and some other people find it hard to admit, for fear of people's reactions.

Disclosing

When you see the sort of prejudices still exhibited, that's no surprise. High profile cases such as Nkosinathi Mabanda's are intended to deter people from taking risks, but as often as not, they have the opposite effect of driving people underground.

Ms Power added: "We urge anyone having difficulty with disclosing their HIV status or managing safer sex to ring us confidentially.

"And we urge anyone's who's put themselves at risk of HIV or other sexually transmitted infections to get tested and treated."

THT Direct is on 0808 802 1221.

Loving homes wanted

NEW homes are needed for two animals who have been taken in by a Willenhall vet.

Little Man the cat and Minnie the puppy are both in the care of Lockwood Animal Hospital, in Willenhall.

Black and white moggy Little Man was handed in by his elderly owner who could no longer look after him.

Minnie the puppy was found roaming the streets and was handed to the practice, in Lower Lichfield Street.

Veterinary nurse Laura Bailey said: "Minnie is a bit lively but absolutely adorable.

"She'd be perfect for a family or someone who has plenty of time "

Head vet Gemma Williams with Little Man the cat and Minnie the puppy

TJ Hughes to shut down

THE TJ Hughes store in Walsall, which employs more than 40 people, is closing down.

Large yellow signs have been put up outside the branch in Park Street telling customers "store closing down" and "everything must go".

The troubled department store chain went into administration last month putting 4,000 jobs at risk nationally.

It is believed the shops will start to close as soon as the last stock is sold, which is believed to be within three to four weeks.

Administrator Ernst & Young said today the business was still trading as a going concern and it was still trying to find a buyer.

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Golden moment for hardworking Ross

A HIGH-flying teenager from Walsall rubbed shoulders with royalty when he collected his gold Duke of Edinburgh awards from Prince Phillip himself.

Ross Grosvenor, who attended Queen Mary's Grammar School, travelled to St James's Palace, London, to collect the prestigious award.

The ceremony was held to mark the hard work, determination and perseverance required to successfully complete the gold Duke of Edinburgh scheme. Ross, of Pelsall, worked tirelessly through five sections of the programme over 18 months to achieve the top award.

As part of the programme, Ross proved himself as a leader and took his Cub pack on an expedition around Coniston Water.

Outdoors

The 19-year-old's activities also included studying for an Open University degree in meteorology, target shooting within a team, and becoming a Scout leader by working towards his Wood Badge – which features the 20 modules Scout and Cub leaders aim to complete.

Ross said: "I started with my silver award a few years ago and decided to follow it up with gold award. I've always been up for a challenge and I also love being outdoors."

Ross currently works at a Volvo dealership in Codsall, near Wolverhampton, but hopes to join the RAF as a pilot next year.

Proud – Walsall's Ross Grosvenor, 19, with his gold Duke of Edinburgh certificate

Prison for raider who dropped his phone

A BUNGLING Walsall burglar dropped a mobile phone at the scene of a crime the day after telling the police that it belonged to him, a judge heard.

Judge John Wait jailed Paul Nightingale for three years and told him: "You have an appalling record."

Nightingale, 29, shouted at a woman who saw him trying to break into the house of her neighbour and causing £2,200 damage, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

The phone fell out of his pocket as he escaped over the back fence of a house in Wayside Gardens, Willenhall, where he had stolen property from the garage.

"The mobile was traced to him because he had given the number to police the previous day in relation to another matter," said Mrs Kanwal Juss, prosecuting.

Nightingale fled on a bicycle he had stolen six days earlier. He then jumped behind the wheel of a Ford Mondeo with the keys in the ignition while the owner prepared to go fishing.

He drove off in the car which had two phones and £1,500-worth of angling equipment inside, said Mrs Juss.

Searched

Nightingale rang the owner's wife on one of the phones and told her the vehicle would be returned if she left £300 in an envelope taped to a bin outside a specific pub in Willenhall. He was arrested soon afterwards when police spotted him using the mobile and officers found another stolen bicycle when they searched his home.

Nightingale, of Queen Elizabeth Avenue, Bentley, who had committed 64 offences and made 27 court appearances in 10 years, admitted burglary, attempted burglary and theft.

Mr Lee Masters, defending, said the Mondeo had been taken on the spur of the moment and had been returned. Nightingale had conquered a drug habit but was under the influence of alcohol.

He had been given a community order for handling stolen goods just three weeks before.

Owners of 1600s inn brew up tearoom bid

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

AN HISTORIC but dilapidated Willenhall pub could be restored as a licensed cafe or tearoom. The Bell Inn in Market Place was taken over by a consortium of four community-spirited people in September.

They have appointed conservation architectural specialists Phillip Taylor Associates to advise on the work needed to restore the building.

Hundreds of photographs have been taken to record the fine detail of the features of the 17th century pub to preserve them through the restoration process.

Mr Taylor said: "I'm delighted to have been appointed for this prestigious project and am excited about helping to bring this iconic building from Willenhall's past back to its former glories.

"It has seen so much neglect over many years and extensive work will be needed to restore it, in keeping with the standards demanded by English Heritage and conservation requirements."

Rupy Pandaal, spokesman for the consortium, said structural surveys had been commissioned and a full survey carried out.

He said these would be used to consider options for bringing the building back in to use. The options included a licensed cafe with community meeting facilities and living accommodation.

Preparing

Other options being considered are display facilities for Walsall artists and the History Society alongside a gift shop for the Heritage Trust.

Having already committed £80,000 from their own pockets, the group is preparing to ask Walsall Council for funding from the heritage funding programme for Willenhall town centre.

Mr Pandaal said they would also appeal to the town's business community.

He said: "It's very encouraging to see the amount of goodwill there is from all sections of the community to help make this happen and we're looking forward to working with the council to help put some much-needed pride back into Willenhall after all the knocks it's received in recent years."

Empty office may become health complex

A NEW health complex with 90 staff could open in an empty office block in Bloxwich which was created in a multi-million pound regeneration scheme.

Canalside House has been empty since last autumn after being built alongside the Stan Ball Centre through an ambitious £5 million project. A change of use application has been lodged with Walsall Council.

The Dudley and Walsall Mental Health NHS Trust Partnership is now proposing to move into the building to run services from a central hub.

It was initially expected Walsall Primary Care Trust would take up Canalside House in Abbotts Street near to the Wyrley & Essington Canal, but funding cuts stalled the transfer.

The new approach aims to bring staff under one roof to deliver a mental health service for families, help people deal with eating disorders and house the early intervention team.

Staff are currently based at sites across the borough, including Harden Surgery, Blakenall Village Centre and Greybury House.

Prestige awards to cash-and-carry

WILLENHALL-based cash-and-carry, delivery and Spar group AF Blakemore & Son picked up two corporate responsibility accolades at the Business in the Community Awards for Excellence Gala Dinner 2011.

The event, at Birmingham Town Hall, saw the company's cross-divisional educational programme receive a Big Tick in the Nationwide Education category, while Heart Distribution's support for regional food producers has collected a Big Tick in the Anglo American Supply Chain category.

Driver admits bilking diesel on forecourts

A MAN who stole nearly £2,000 worth of fuel over three months in Walsall and other towns in order to fund his drug habit has been sentenced to 42 weeks in prison.

Sandwell Magistrates heard last week that Kevin Martin McDonald, aged 25, would fill barrels in the back of his van with diesel before making off from petrol stations without paying.

McDonald, currently serving an 18 week sentence at HMP Hewell, Redditch, admitted four fuel thefts from petrol stations in Walsall, Wolverhampton and Warley and to stealing a sat nav worth £150 in West Bromwich. He asked for 18 similar offences to be considered.

On April 1 he stole £75.39 diesel from a petrol station in Warley, on April 6 he targeted two Walsall fuel stations stealing fuel worth almost £280 and on April 11 he stole £143.96 worth of diesel from a petrol station in Wolverhampton.

Mr Andrew Chowdhury, defending, said McDonald stole to fund his drug habit. He was sentenced to 42 weeks in jail to run concurrently to his current term and banned from driving until July 2013.

Letters have new members!

Pamela Rainsford and Mavis Cartwright are looking for club members

It offers players a mental workout, but members of Walsall Scrabble Club are now having to concentrate twice as hard on the game due to a lack of members.

When the club started almost two decades ago, around 20 members regularly gathered for a good game and gossip at both Birchills Community Centre and the Glebe Centre in the borough.

But numbers have dwindled to just three, and with an odd number of players left they have taken to playing each other simultaneously using two boards.

The club meets at the Glebe Centre, in Wednesbury Road, on Fridays and is eager to recruit new members.

It was 16 years ago when Mavis Cartwright, a retired English lecturer who worked at colleges across the Midlands, joined.

The grandmother-of-one, of Broad Way, Pelsall, said: "In the past the club used to be thriving. Unfortunately, we lost a lot of members after Birchills Community Centre closed."

The group meets from 1.30pm-3pm and anyone interested can call Pamela Rainsford on 01922 624526.

Weddings hotel on market for £1.45m

A WALSALL hotel is on the market with a price tag of £1.45 million, it has been revealed.

The Baron's Court, in Walsall Wood, has been a popular wedding reception venue for decades. The search is now being stepped up for a new owner to take over the 94-bedroom hotel in Lichfield Road.

The Baron's Court was created in 1974 when Stephen Joynes, now owner of Hoar Cross Hall spa near Lichfield, took over the Water Splash nightclub. He sold the hotel in 1989 for £8.6 million.

Factory skeleton inquest adjourned

AN INQUEST has been opened on a navigation expert whose skeleton was discovered at a factory in Aldridge.

The remains of Ronald Bland, aged 53, of no fixed abode, were found by builders working at the back of Valen Fittings Ltd, in Westgate, on April 13.

The inquest at Smethwick last week was he was last seen on March 14, 2005. Mr Bland was divorced and suffered from Parkinson's disease.

Black Country Coroner Robin Balmain said the discovery was made as excavation work was being carried out at the site. The inquest was adjourned for further inquiries to be made. His remains were released for cremation.

Villa star at dinner

FORMER Aston Villa and Republic of Ireland defender Paul McGrath is to host a sporting dinner at Walsall FC.

It takes place at the Banks's Stadium in Bescot Crescent on December 1. He will be joined by comedian Paul Boardman and tickets are £35. For details call 01922 651414.

Tesco parking crackdown

STRICTER parking rules are to come into force at a Walsall town centre supermarket because drivers are snubbing council-owned car parks to leave cars there for free.

Walsall Council has been in talks with Tesco over concerns that the three hour limit is being ignored.

The £65 million store opened in December and revenue at the council's Hatherton Road multi-storey car park has since slumped by £8,000 a month.

Tesco has now agreed on stronger enforcement at its Littleton Street West store to ensure it is used only by customers.

David Elsworthy, head of planning and building control, said: "We've agreed a scheme which involves the use of the vehicle number recognition technology at the store and a form of verification from the checkout."

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Fence for under M6-M5 link

SECURITY fencing is to be installed around an electricity junction box underneath the M6-M5 interchange near Walsall after it was targeted by arsonists.

A two-mile stretch of motorway between Junction 7 of the M6 at Great Barr and Junction 8, the Ray Hall interchange, was plunged into darkness after arsonists started the blaze in May.

The fire also affected 34 properties in Newton Road, Pear Tree Close and nearby streets.

Now Amey, contracted by the Highways Agency, has applied for planning permission to erect eight-foot palisade fencing under the intersection.

Amey's Ian Davies said: "The purpose of this fencing is to prevent access by unauthorised persons."

The application follows an arson attack on stables in Ray Hall Lane on Monday, July 18, and is part of a raft of measures planned to cut vandalism.

Council chiefs have also said they are considering an order to gate off Ray Hall Lane after recent arson attacks.

Father-of-four Andy Sullivan, of Ray Hall Lane, said: "I have written again to request CCTV for the area."

Pupils handed courage award

AN AWARD for "perseverance and achievement against diversity" has been handed to two Walsall schoolboys.

The Stan Clark Memorial Trophy was presented to Joshua Biddle, aged 15, of Shire Oak School, and Elliot Bennett, 11, of Leighswood School.

Any pupil within the club area who is persevering against adversity is eligible for nomination from his or her school.

Joshua was considered to be worthy of the award as he has suffered with hemiplegia, a condition which means one side of his body is weaker than the other, and has had brain haemorrhages since he was eight.

Secondary

He has language difficulties and now has to use his left hand, although he is right-handed.

Elliott has a neurological condition, Sturge-Weber Syndrome, which affects the right side of his body, and secondary glaucoma.

He has had numerous operations since he was six weeks old, and has laser treatment to his face every eight to 10 weeks.

The award by the Aldridge and District Lions Club is named in honour of Aldridge and District Lions Club stalwart Stan Clark.

Axe hangs over Serco deal to run education

PRIVATE firm Serco's contract to run education services in Walsall was facing the axe this week.

Termination of the £345 million contract was one option due to be discussed by Walsall Council's cabinet last night (Wednesday) after a number of schools broke ties to become academies and control their own affairs.

Council leader Mike Bird said last week: "One of the options being considered is the orderly termination or orderly handover of the contract."

Serco was awarded a contract to run Walsall's education services for five years in 2001. It was revised in 2003 and renewed in 2008 for 12 years.

Under the Education Bill 2011 schools have been given greater independence, with cash going straight to schools that become academies to decide what services to buy.

Direction

Councils will see their services significantly reduced to supporting vulnerable children with special educational needs, providing school transport, and developing strategies to help schools "buy in" services.

In a joint statement on behalf of Walsall Council and Serco, Councillor Rachel Andrew, cabinet member for children's services, said: "We have consulted with Walsall headteachers and chairs of key bodies over the last six months and they acknowledge the need for the council to consider changing and to adapt to the new policy direction."

Serco is shedding 90 of its 400 non-teaching jobs from the end of next month.

The cabinet meeting was being held behind closed doors but councillors have promised to keep the public informed.

Deadline for naming of new centre

TOWNSFOLK who use Walsall's Goscote Centre have until the end of this month to suggest a name for a new community project.

The centre has been given a £250,000 makeover and the latest area of work is focusing on the creation of a community garden in the centre grounds in Goscote Lane.

A competition to name it was launched at an afternoon tea party, held to update everyone on the progress at the centre, used by adults with learning disabilities.

Fencing

Paul Davies, Walsall Council's executive director for social care and inclusion, said: "This project really belongs to the people who use Goscote, their carers and volunteers.

"We are asking them to think of a suitable name, as its success will be down to their involvement and enthusiasm and their input is vital."

A prize is available for the best suggestion. A market garden, sensory garden and cafe are on some wish-lists.

Contractor S Clift has started to work to develop the car park, install fencing, paths and flower beds.

A new training kitchen has already been completed along with a conservatory which could be used as a cafe or bistro.

Space invaders have to go as Neil sells up

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

A SCI-FI fan with a big passion for comics and toys from some of the best known cartoon and screen characters, has put his entire collection featuring hundreds of items up for sale.

Father-of-two Neil Hough has amassed more than 400 rare books, models and images of his favourites at car boot sales and memorabilia fairs.

It is an ultimate science fiction fan's dream, but he says he has finally outgrown his 30-year obsession. Bedrooms, the loft, boxes and cupboards, in fact anywhere space can be found at his Walsall home is crammed full of pictures, toys, posters all in pristine condition.

Now the 53-year-old says he has swapped his love of science fiction collectibles for the thrill of Formula 1 motor racing.

He is seeking a way to sell the collection and hopes to spend some of the proceeds on three days worth of tickets and accommodation for the British Grand Prix at Silverstone in 2012.

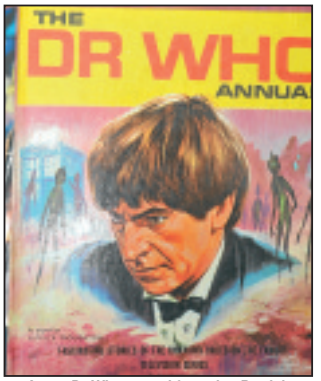
"All good things come to an end. I've had many happy hours attending fairs and sniffing out bargains.

Autographed

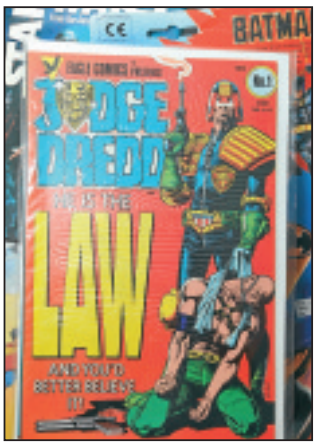
"I went to Silverstone for the first time in 2007 and since then I've been hooked on Formula 1. My interest in sc-fi has completely gone – plus we haven't got the room to keep the collection. It is all over the house, in the attic, in drawers, cupboards, in bedrooms."

He paid 50p for a 1965 Dr Who annual featuring Patrick Troughton, but has since seen a copy on sale for £50. Prized items includes a framed and autographed photo of actor Christian Bale in the movie Batman Begins. "I never thought that one day I would want to part with it. I started with a few bits, but it gradually grew until it took over. I do think I've finally grown up," says the finance officer, of Pelsall

He admits that his wife Karen, 50, daughters Claire, 28, and Leanne, 26, would breathe a sigh of relief when the collection goes.



A rare Dr Who annual featuring Patrick Troughton, who was the second Time Lord



A first edition of Eagle Comics' Judge Dredd

A first issue of a Star Trek movie

Neil Hough at home with his myriad space invaders

Rosie Ross walk raises £12,000

THE 10th annual walk in memory of murdered Aldridge schoolgirl Rosie Ross has raised £12,000.

The walk and festival at Aldridge Airport on July 17 is held every year in honour of the 16-year-old who was stabbed in a motiveless attack in Birmingham's Centenary Square.

Parents Karen and Sean set up Rosie's Helping Hands, which has raised more than £300,000 for good causes.

In a statement the couple said: "We are delighted with how it went and the response was amazing with a brilliant sea of purple created by all those that came along to support us."

School coining it

Pupils at a Walsall school held a charity coin collection over the course of the year, raising more than £470.

Youngsters at Queen Mary's Grammar School, in Sutton Road, Walsall, will donate the money to a cystic fibrosis charity.

Pupils were encouraged each week to donate their 1p and 2p coins into the collection boxes at the school's four houses, Aragon, Darby, Gryphon and Petypher.

Lighting again for arboretum

DESIGNS to light up Walsall Arboretum to replace the axed illuminations will be unveiled this autumn, council chiefs have revealed.

Moves to create an illuminated park have been under consideration after the decision to scrap the illuminations.

Lights to highlight features at the town's premier park, such as the lake and bandstand, are being investigated as an alternative.

Council chiefs are looking to sell off the old illumination boards, which date back more than 50 years.

Leisure chief Councillor Anthony Harris said: "We're busy drawing up plans for an illuminated park and we'll be ready to let the public see where we are with them in the autumn.

"That should be really exciting. It'll be giving new life to a very old Walsall tradition."

Teen rape charge

A MAN from Willenhall has been accused of raping a teenager.

Glen Murtagh, aged 32, of Bloxwich Road South, appeared before at Walsall Magistrates charged with rape last September and was bailed to appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on October 12.

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Women make clean sweep at NVQ awards

IF ANYONE thinks cleaning is just a matter of a feather duster and a mop and bucket, they should think again.

Pinnacle PSG's 10-strong estate and block cleaning team in Walsall have all completed their NVQ Level 2 in cleaning and support services, and have the certificates to prove it.

As well as using the correct equipment in the right way, over the past few months the staff have also had to learn about issues such as health and safety, team building, customer care and avoiding cross contamination.

Confidence

The qualification is assessed in the workplace and consists of being observed at work, and written work submitted to the assessor.

Amanda Jones, currently on maternity leave, Mandy Dugmore, Tracey Hamilton, Sandra Wyke, Julie Burnell, Cheryl Malcolm, Maureen Jones, Zoe Bott, and Linda Evans, were among those who passed the NVQ tests.

The Pinnacle PSG team delivers services to estates in the borough for Walsall Housing Group.

"Our aim at Pinnacle PSG is to ensure that all our staff are properly trained to carry out their jobs effectively, efficiently and in a caring way," said contract manager, Paul Magill. "There is a lot more to cleaning than first meets the eye. All the staff and customers benefit from the knowledge and skills they receive from these courses."

Maureen Jones, one of the Pinnacle PSG team, said: "I have learnt a lot from the course which has helped me with my communication skills and has given me more confidence to speak to the residents."

GMC bans woman's doctor over meeting

A DOCTOR who worked at a Walsall psychiatric hospital has been banned for 12 months after taking a female patient to a Little Chef restaurant.

Dr Graham Fuller called the woman from his private phone and failed to keep proper records of his dealings with her.

The consultant, who worked at Walsall's Dorothy Pattison Hospital until 2009, was banned following a misconduct hearing at the General Medical Council in Manchester.

He was found to have been "crossing appropriate professional boundaries in dealing with a vulnerable patient".

Dr Fuller admitted taking calls from the patient on his private mobile phone. He also admitted that while on leave in Grimsby in July 2009 he took a call from the patient, arranged to meet her and then took her to a Little Chef restaurant in Elsham.

He further admitted not recording the meeting in medical notes, or discussing the events with colleagues at the earliest opportunity, or making a risk assessment of the patient's care.

Seriously

GMC panel chairman Dr Peter Jefferys said: "The panel is satisfied that your fitness to practise is impaired in that you continue to present a risk to patients."

Medical Director of Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust, Dr Bill Conlon, said: "Inappropriate relationships with service users is not something that will be tolerated by our trust. As soon as we were made aware we undertook a full investigation into these allegations.

"During this time, Dr Fuller was suspended from work. Following our investigation, Dr Fuller's employment with the trust was terminated on April 1, 2010.

"The safety and welfare of our patients is our top priority and allegations of this nature will always be treated extremely seriously and appropriate action taken."

No extra jail for habitual criminal, 19

A PROLIFIC teenage criminal with 44 previous court appearances has been rewarded for turning over a new leaf.

Aaron Humpage is serving two years detention after stealing £420 from a donation box at the Maha Shiv Shakti Mandir Hindu temple, in Willenhall.

Humpage, aged 19, of High Street, Bilston, called police and confessed to three other offences, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Michael Taylor, prosecuting, said: "He said he wants to turn his life around because he's sick of the downward spiral caused by drug addiction."

Immediate

Humpage told officers he had stolen a TV from Roseville Medical Centre in Shale Street, Bilston, , broke a window at Holland & Barrett, in Church Street, to take tubs of protein supplement, and attempted to steal £145-worth of goods from Pets at Home, St John's Retail Park, Wolverhampton.

David Bratt, defending, said: "He has been addicted to heroin and living a nomadic, disorganised life since being alienated from his family at 15, but is now giving negative drug tests."

Humpage, who admitted burglary and asked for two other offences to be considered, was given an immediate 22- month period of detention meaning it can be served at the same time as his present sentence.

Judge John Wait told him: "I shall give you great credit for the very positive step you have taken."

Purge ordered on 10 suspect car washes

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

TEN car washes suspected of operating illegally in Walsall are now under investigation by council chiefs. Bosses have vowed to crack down on all unauthorised businesses after a spate of hand washes were set up without permission.

Legal action has started in Brownhills after an enforcement notice was not complied with. However, some sites initially under scrutiny have been allowed to continue.

One operator in Willenhall was granted permission after gaining temporary planning approval, while another near the town centre won an appeal.

Councillor Adrian Andrew said: "We have vowed to continue clamping down on unauthorised car washes.

"Since January, a previously illegal car wash has been granted a temporary and conditional planning permission at Bilston Lane, Willenhall thus bringing it inside the law.

"We've started legal action against an illegal car wash in High Street, Brownhills, after an enforcement notice was not complied with."

Councillor Andrew added: "At Ward Street, an appeals inspector did not support the enforcement notice and granted a two-year conditional planning permission. We are also currently investigating a further 10 sites on a case-by-case basis."

Injunction

Some of the regular haunts for cash washes to be set up are on derelict pub car parks and former petrol station forecourts.

Operators who continue despite council enforcement action can be brought before the courts. One operation in Walsall was fined £10,000 and then served with an injunction to stay off a former MEB station in Church Street, Darlaston.

Permission for a car wash at Ward Street, near Walsall Arboretum, was granted after plans to create a mini-retail park failed to get off the ground.

Summer hols safety appeal by 999 chiefs

WEST Midlands Ambulance Service is appealing to parents and children to keep safe while having fun in the sun during the school holidays.

WMAS spokesman Chris Kowalik said: "Children should be seen and not hurt. Cycling is a great way to have fun and keep fit but it's not always easy for drivers to see children on bikes especially around parked vehicles.

"And anyone riding their bike must remember to wear a helmet.

"Teenagers on mopeds must wear the appropriate safety gear, including leathers and helmet."

Mr Kowalik urged children to be careful around open water, and if youngsters want to swim they should go to a professional supervised event.

He added: "High temperatures and sunshine can lead to sunstroke, heat exhaustion, sunburn, and respiratory problems"

"To help avoid these problems it is recommended that the public should try and avoid the sun during the hottest part of the day, between 11am and pm. If you must go outside in these hours wear a hat, sunscreen and light, loose fitting cotton clothes."

Pupils grow to like Diarmuid

Gardener Diarmuid Gavin takes a look at the school garden, with pupils and staff members, at Blue Coat Junior, Walsall.

GREEN-fingered pupils at a Walsall school were delighted to see celebrity gardener Diarmuid Gavin

The children at Blue Coat Junior and Blue Coat Infants schools have collected the most gardening tokens from supermarket Morrisons in Walsall this year, prompting the visit from Gavin last Tuesday.

The tokens are sent off to the supermarket in return for gardening equipment, and the pupils have benefitted from trowels, spades, forks and seeds to help with their school vegetable patch. Youngsters have been growing various different fruit and vegetables on the patch, including strawberries, beans and rhubarb.

Headteacher Jackey Smith said: "We showed Diarmuid the garden and the vegetables they have planted.

"The children have been doing it for a couple of years now at a lunch time club.

"It's a great thing for children who don't have a garden, and they absolutely love it. Some of them didn't know what rhubarb looked like before they grew it."

Homes service appeals for help

A SERVICE supporting elderly people in their homes in Walsall is appealing for volunteers.

The Help at Home scheme supports older and vulnerable people with day-to-day jobs such as DIY, shopping, gardening and cleaning.

The project is run by Caldmore Housing Association and Age UK Walsall. Call 01922 636038 for more information

Cash battle for three play areas

A WORKING group has been set up to try to secure funding for three Willenhall play areas after money for them was diverted to other areas of Walsall Council's budget.

The playgrounds are intended for children aged eight to 13 and are earmarked for Pennine Way in Short Heath, The Square, in New Invention, and Harthill Street, Rosehill.

Willenhall Partnership has now set up a task group to help identify funding for the projects, and is poised to apply for Lottery funding.

Footballers face assault charges

TWO men accused of assaulting opponents at a Walsall football match have appeared in court.

Shaun Neville, 24, of Bloxwich Lane, Beechdale, faces a charge of assault occasioning grievous bodily harm and a charge of common assault arising from a match between The Underdogs and Borussia Teeth at the Sneyd School pitches,in Vernon Way, Bloxwich.

Dean Simmonds, aged 32, of Winterley Lane, Rushall, is accused of assault occasioning grievous bodily harm.

Walsall magistrates bailed the pair at a hearing last Wednesday and ordered them to appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on August 24.

Inquest on fire pensioner

THE death of a pensioner following a house fire in Walsall is not being treated as suspicious, police said.

Zuban Nisa was found with burns in the cellar of the property during the blaze in Rowley Street, Chuckery.

Emergency services were called to the address at just before 5.30pm on Monday, July 18.

The 68-year-old was rescued by firefighters and airlifted to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital where she died a short time later.

An inquest adjourned by Black Country Coroner Robin Balmain to allow further inquiries.

Neighbours in Rowley Street have reacted with shock to the news of the 68-year-old's death.

A woman, who did not wish to be named, said: "It's a real shame, she was a lovely lady."

Gas main repairs

TEMPORARY traffic lights have been installed in Bescot Crescent, Walsall, and will be in operation night and day until Friday, August 5, while urgent gas main repairs are carried out by Enterprise plc on behalf of National Grid Gas.

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Temporary base for cabbies

TAXIS are to be relocated during £430,000 improvement work at a Walsall bus station. The Bradford Place interchange is closing for more than a month while new shelters and stops are installed.

It means taxis need to be moved and a temporary rank is being created in Bradford Street.They will eventually move back into the completed bus station which is scheduled to re-open in early September.

Once finished the designated area provided for taxi users will feature an improved pedestrian crossing.

Separate

During the work there will be temporary bus stops in Caldmore Road and Bradford Street.Modern glass shelters will be added and extra bus stops installed.

Bridgeman Street will be resurfaced from the railway bridge throughout Bradford Place and along Bradford Street to the junction with Caldmore Road.

The pedestrian crossing outside the Saddlers Centre will be upgraded, with the road being raised in Newport Street near the junction with Bradford Street.

Transport authority Centro and Walsall Council are working on the project, which was due to begin this week.

Building society to aid hospice

THE West Brom building society has chosen Walsall's Acorns Children's Hospice as its charity of the year.

Staff voted for Acorns to add their support to the care provided at its three hospices in Birmingham, Walsall and Worcester and the help given to sick children and their families.

The building society is now planning a variety of events, while staff will also lend their time to volunteer for the charity, with gardening work having already been completed at the Walsall hospice in Walstead Road.

Creative

Jonathan Westhoff, chief executive of the West Brom, said: "We are proud to have Acorns Children's Hospice as our charity of the year because it provides high quality care to children and much needed support to their families.

"Our enthusiastic and compassionate staff will embrace this special cause both with creative ideas to raise money and by joining in volunteering."

Elinor Eustace, corporate partnerships manager at the charity, said: "We are thrilled that the West Brom has chosen Acorns. The team at the West Brom has already shown a clear commitment to the partnership and we look forward to working with them."

Delight at return of one-time play field

A PIECE of derelict land in Walsall is to be returned to its former use as a school playing field after more than 30 years, bringing a long-running campaign to a close.

Residents and community groups fought to keep the plot off Blue Lane West, Birchills, for leisure facilities and feared it would be sold off for housing.

Now Walsall's regeneration chief, Councillor Adrian Andrew, has confirmed the property next to Smiths Flour Mill will revert to the control of nearby Birchills Primary CE School.

The school was recently extended in a £4.8m scheme, leaving little space for outdoor sport.

Councillor Andrew said the land had always been designated statutory school playing fields for Hillary and Birchills primary schools.

Surplus

"The scheme to enlarge, remodel and refurbish Birchills Primary School has now been completed and the contractor will be working to restore the detached playing field to grass for use as playing fields by the school very shortly."

Prior to the revamp, the land opposite the Farringdon Street school had been surplus to requirements.

A draft leisure plan which included proposals for a Sure Start scheme and artificial pitch on the site was stopped in its tracks by the council's cabinet seven years ago. At the time, campaigners packed a meeting of the St Matthew's and Birchills/Leamore local neighbourhood partnership to protest against the decision.

Ward representative and Labour leader Councillor Tim Oliver said: "We would absolutely welcome it coming back to local use."

Aftab Nawaz, of the Pakistani Muslim Welfare Association, said: "It is important that the whole community can take advantage of that land.

"We are confident the school will work with the wider community to ensure this."

Ofsted team praises school improvement

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

A SECONDARY school in Walsall that was last year given a notice to improve by Ofsted has made significant progress, according to the latest inspection team.

Blue Coat CE Performing Arts Specialist College has achieved an overall satisfactory rating in its inspection. It comes just a year after the school in Birmingham Street was judged to be inadequate by Ofsted inspectors and was told to improve standards.

The news was welcomed by school bosses who are aiming to convert Blue Coat into an academy.

In his report, Ofsted inspector Michael Smith said: "The school has improved significantly and now provides a satisfactory standard of education."

He said examination results in 2010 had confirmed that the school needed significant improvement.

"During the year since that inspection, staff have worked very hard and successfully in improving the achievement of students."

Mr Smith added: "Observations of lessons and analysis of the school records show that now, students make satisfactory and sometimes good progress."

Impact

Special praise was also reserved for current headteacher Pat Walters, who took over at the Blue Coat last Easter.

She was said by the inspection team to have made a "very marked impact in a relatively short time."

The school has now been challenged to continue to improve further.

In the meantime, education bosses have welcomed the latest report.

Graham Talbot, interim managing director at Walsall Children's Service Serco, said: "We are delighted with the report."

He added that the inspection report had recognised the remarkable achievements and the rapid improvements made at Blue Coat over the last year.

"We are particularly pleased at the strong partnership working between ourselves, the school leadership team and the interim executive board."

Mr Talbot added that the partnership had showed an aptitude for making good decisions quickly.

Walsall WHSmith store manager Johanne Turner with Blue Coat pupils Kieran Sumner, aged 12, Takunda Mugabe, 14 and David Cyron, 13

Book treat in store for pupils

STAFF and pupils at a Walsall school will be able to stock up on new equipment after being picked to receive vouchers from a national retailer.

Blue Coat CE Performing Arts College was one of 160 schools across the country chosen to benefit from the WHSmith schools giveaway.

They have now been given £150 worth of vouchers which will be used to buy books and stationery ahead of the new school year in September.

Staff at the Walsall branch, in Park Street, nominated the school for the vouchers, which are part of the WHSmith Trust Schools Giveaway.

Sandra Vernon, spokeswoman for the Birmingham Street school, said: "This is a great way to not only boost the library resources but to build links with Walsall WHSmith in supporting and promoting literacy and to gain valuable work experience placement for the young people in our school."

Walsall store manager Johanne Turner said: "We're really excited to have the opportunity to support Blue Coat College and help to improve their library facilities for the beginning of the new school year."

Crash victim Harbans Lal

Tragedy of dad hit by motorbike

A WALSALL father of five died after he was struck by a motorbike while crossing a road near his home, an inquest heard.

Harbans Lal, aged 61, of Heathfield Lane, Darlaston, was injured as he crossed Wolverhampton Street last December 27 . His right lower leg was severed and he also suffered fractures, bruises and abrasions.

Walsall Coroners Court heard that Mr Lal suffered shock following the loss of his leg and was taken by ambulance to Manor Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Remember

The widower, who worked for copper tube manufacturers Mueller Europe, in Bilston, for more than 30 years, had been drinking in the Old Engine pub, in Bull Street, but friends and relatives said he was not drunk.

Accident investigator Pc Katrina Hall said the road was wet but visibility was good. She said it was likely Mr Lal had been walking quickly and the motorbike had been travelling between 29 and 35mph.

Motorcyclist Luke Guttridge said he had seen Mr Lal on the pavement but did not remember anything after he stepped into the road.

Coroner Robin Balmain said it was an accident that happened due to a combination of the motorcyclist not taking "appropriate precautions" and Mr Lal not taking "sufficient care".

Winnick backs Class 7 over education plea

CHILDREN at a Willenhall school have written to their MP in support of a campaign to give disadvantaged children the chance of an education.

Class 7 at New Invention Junior School, in Cannock Road, wrote to David Winnick, Labour member for Walsall North, as part of the Send My Sister to School campaign.

In the letter, youngsters wrote: "Giving children an education enables them to learn to read, write and use number.

"Is it too much to ask that all children are given the choice? A lot of children in these poorer areas spend their time working or completing chores to look after their family.

Initiative

"These children do not get the chance to be children."

They have asked Mr Winnick to spread the message to other MPs.

Mr Winnick said he was impressed by the letter and had sent a reply to youngsters at the Cannock Road school.

"I have thanked the children for their initiative in supporting such an excellent campaign and said that all the correspondence has been sent to Andrew Mitchell, International Development Secretary.

"It is excellent that schools in my constituency– this is not the first– are so keen and enthusiastic about the campaign."

Rodent alert closes bank

A WALSALL town centre bank had to be closed after a rat was spotted running around.

Staff and customers were evacuated from HSBC after the rodent came in off the street.

Pest controllers were called in last Thursday to tackle the problem .

Customers going to the bank in The Bridge, Walsall, were met with a sign saying it had shut due to unforseen circumstances". It remained closed during the afternoon while a thorough clean-out of the premises took place, eventually reopening at 4pm.

Melissa Jobson, spokeswoman for HSBC, said: "We'd like to apologise to our customers for any inconvenience that this incident has caused.

"The HSBC branch at Walsall was closed due to an incident where a rodent entered the branch from off the street."

Youngsters put best foot forward

HUNDREDS of pupils and staff at a Walsall school have taken part in an annual eight-mile sponsored walk.

Children from Joseph Leckie Technology College walked along the canal and into Walsall Arboretum on July 19.

All funds from the walk will go to support the students' education – paying for educational visits for pupils who could not otherwise afford them.

Caron Wattley, for the school, said: "The walk provides good exercise and gives students the chance to see some picturesque parts of Walsall, which they might not usually experience.

"The day creates a community feeling."

Surgery with police

A POLICE surgery is to take place at a supermarket in Walsall tomorrow (Friday) for people to meet officers face-to-face.Residents can discuss problems and concerns with the neighbourhood police team at Sainsbury's at Reedswood Retail Park, Reedswood Way, Birchills, from 11am until 1pm.

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Results are music to children's ears

CHILDREN at a Walsall school have been banging the drum after receiving top marks for music.

Youngsters at Busill Jones Primary have been turning their hands at a number of instruments to perform music by rock band Queen and from the James Bond movies.

Now three classes from the school in Ashley Road, Bloxwich, are celebrating their musical achievements.

Pupils from Year 3, 4 and 5 have achieved level one and two from the London Examining Board for Rock It.

Distinction

The whole class groups played keyboards, drums and tin pan to perform the likes of We Will Rock You, by Queen, Take My Breath Away, by Berlin, from the film Top Gun, and the theme tune to James Bond.

All three classes entered achieved a distinction.

They were led by John Bough from the Forest Arts Centre and classroom assistants Sam Foster and Sam Bullock.

Headteacher Jeanette Hammond, headteacher at Busill Jones, praised the talented youngsters, and said: "The school is very proud of their achievement in music."

Back, from left, Joshua Green, aged 10, Lucy Watkins, nine, Maame Serwaa-Ackah, eight, Sam Strevens, eight, and Josh Hollyoak with, front, Olivia Speed, 10

Warning over crime tactics

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

CRIMINALS are using more creative ways to con their way into people's homes, said following a wave of burglaries in Walsall.

On July 2, an Asian woman in her early 20s posing as a Sandwell Council worker tricked her way into a house in Palfrey and stole cash.

Three days later, two white men in their mid-teens with Irish accents tricked their way into a home in Darlaston. The men, who were in a silver car, asked the occupant to retrieve their ball from her garden. While she was distracted, they stole money.

Before these crimes, the last distraction burglary reported in Walsall had been on June 9, in the Pleck area, when a man posing as a Virgin engineer got access to a home by claiming he had been sent to fit a broadband connection.

Community Partnerships officer Kevin Pitt has warned people to beware.

He said: "None of these approaches are unknown but are less common than the usual 'water board' approach.

"Also in these three cases the offenders have differing descriptions.

He advised people to ask callers for identification, to fit a chain on the front door and to keep back doors secure in a bid to stop opportunistic thieves in their tracks.

Canoe offer for summer

FROM canoeing to horse riding, Walsall adults with a learning disability have a wealth of opportunities available to them through a summer scheme.

Walsall Learning Disability Summer scheme is a partnership between Walsall Council, Walsall College and NHS Walsall for adults aged from 18 to 65 who have a learning disability and receive less than six hours a week care.

A packed programme of activities until Friday, August 12, includes trips, workshops, community projects and indoor and outdoor activities such as bowling.

For details email gmcgowen@walsallcollege.ac.uk or smithdonna@walsall.gov.uk or call 07432 155135.

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Pet-deaths pair are banned for 15 years

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

A WALSALL mother of five and her ex-boyfriend have been disqualified from keeping animals for 15 years after they left four rabbits without food, water or bedding in the coldest month of the winter.

Clare Grice, 38, and Anthony Witton, 49, appealed to magistrates not to ban them from keeping pets because they already have animals in their homes.

The court came down on the side of the RSPCA, who asked for a ban after three of the emaciated rabbits died, while the fourth was rescued by a neighbour.

Clare Grice

Anthony Witton

Grice, of Halford Crescent, who has kept a dog for 12 years, and Witton, of North Street,who keeps a canary, were convicted of four joint charges of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal, and two charges of failing in their duties to ensure animal welfare, related to providing food and an appropriate environment.

The pair pleaded not guilty but were convicted last week after a trial at Walsall Magistrates Court.

Mr Nick Sutton, prosecuting, said: "Ms Grice was in her home, eating meals, while these animals were simply starving to death.

Unpaid

"There was a large tin of food for the animals and the food simply hadn't been put in the hutches.

"The vet said they were dramatically underweight, having suffered for weeks and months."

The pair were ordered to pay £500 each towards prosecution costs. Grice was also given a 12-month community order with a requirement to carry out 150 hours of unpaid work. Witton was given a 12-month community order, with supervision.

Teachers Sue Hayfield, top left, Pam Lea and Wendy Habberley with pupils Chloe Prestidge, Matthew Williams, Lucy Kendall,Emily Hancox, Lucy Hill and Daniel Tipton

Day of three goodbyes

EMOTIONS ran high when three staff from a Walsall school said their farewells on the same day after a total of almost 70 years service.

Music teacher Wendy Habberley, 68, who worked at Castlefort Junior Mixed and Infant School for 37 years, and teaching assistant Pam Lea, who worked for 21 years, both retired.

Sue Hayfield, who worked at the Castlefort Road school as a teaching assistant for 10 years, also said her goodbyes.

Mrs Habberley, of Broad Way, Pelsall, is now planning to tour the Norfolk coast in her caravan with husband John.

Mrs Lea, 59, of Bosty Lane, Aldridge, said: "I shall miss them all very much."

Miss Hayfield, 44, of Castlefort Road, said: "I have enjoyed my time here."

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Manor car parks snubbed as our side streets clog up

FOLLOWING articles in the Walsall Chronicle last month we have noticed the results of the new car parks opening at Manor Hospital and why income has fallen.

As predicted by residents, we said that the problems will continue. Now, six weeks after the new car parks opened, staff and visitors are still parking on the side streets around the hospital .

Some staff still paying to use hospital car parks, but with parking on surrounding streets, what a waste of money!

The streets are still reduced to one way traffic flow as vehicles from hospital are parked here. We having trouble getting some of our streets cleaned because of staff vehicles. Road drains have been blocked for nearly two years and are full of dirt and litter, as vehicles are parked over the drains.

During the six weeks we have noticed car parks empty.

That is one reason why hospital income has fallen as staff and visitors are parking on the side streets.

We have asked some of them, visitors at the hospital why they don't use the car parks provided. They reply: "It's free to park here and we don't want to pay to use the car parks."

Another said: "There is no restriction stopping us from parking here." Valid point .

That is why for years residents have asked for parking permits.

Manor Hospital has done its best to provide the parking spaces but it is up the Walsall Council to put in restrictions on the side streets.

If an emergency vehicle has to leave the hospital to get to an incident or return to the hospital with a patient, it may be caught in the traffic – and cost someone their life

Arjun Chand,
Alumwell Residents Group

Mistake to close school

WITH regard to the proposed expansion of Leighswood School, I make the following points:

This action would not be necessary if the council had not closed Redhouse School three or four years ago. With the large amount of house building in Aldridge over the last 10 years, this was a ludicrous decision.

This is purely a financial decision, with no regard to the education of the children. Large classes always produce poor results.

The Serco publication was clearly produced by their spin doctors, with sole emphasis on the exaggerated plus points and no mention of the obvious negatives.

What are the combined salaries of Sue Lupton of Serco and the councillor responsible for education?

Maybe if one of these positions was scrapped (along with so many other council non-jobs) money would be available for the correct purposes, and not for funding the gravy train.

We are a great nation with very poor leadership.

D. Busby
Aldridge

Vulnerable people need someone who can question these changes

SHAME on Paul Daniels, head of social services. Yet again the most vulnerable people are being targeted.

All those who were placed out of the borough into care homes that met their needs are being forced to leave the place of which they have come to regard as their home.

Many of them, our daughter included, will not understand what is happening. Their whole world is about to be turned upside down – to leave all the people they know, friends and carers alike.

They are being forced to leave to be put into an assessment centre whilst a suitable place is found for them.

It's barbaric the way this is being done.

These disabled people are being treated like animals that you just find another home for when things get tough.

These people have feelings, , yet it seems that they don't matter because they can't speak up for themselves.

Imagine being taken from your home and everyone you know and being forced into a strange place where you didn't know anyone.

Mrs C Jones
Dovedale Avenue
Willenhall

BHF wants those unwanted coffee makers, hi-fi, DVD and mp3 players

DO you have something to say? Email walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk or write to Walsall Chronicle, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Letters are published at the editor's discretion and may be edited. All must include a full name, address and contact number.

I AM writing to encourage your readers to give their unloved electricals a second chance by donating them to British Heart Foundation Furniture & Electrical stores.

I'm a technology magpie and can't resist a shiny new gadget – my home is full of electricals that work perfectly but have simply been upgraded.

I'm hoping that your readers will have a rummage in their homes for unwanted hi-fi, DVD players, mp3 players and coffee makers. As long as they're still working, the BHF will find them a new home in the West Midlands.

BHF has joined up with Currys and PC World to create 1,200 drop off points. You'll receive a 5 per cent voucher to spend in Currys and PC World as well as the chance to win £1000s-worth of new prizes. For large electrical items lying around, you can even book a free collection.

Pollyanna Woodward,
Presenter,
The Gadget Show

Early closing thwarts a lovely evening stroll

COULD someone in authority please explain why it is deemed necessary to close the barrier gate to the Beacon North car park at such ridiculously early times in the evening.

In the height of summer, in June and July, the gates are only open until 7.50pm.). In August, it alters to 6.45pm, September to 6.15pm and October to 5.15pm – and so on until even more unreasonably early times throughout autumn and winter until March, when it reaches a giddy closing time of .... wait for it ... 5pm.

I ask this, purely because it is a lovely walk for dogs, being nicer and drier than the bog that T.I. (the airport) becomes, and also by the way seems to have recently turned into a rent free opportunity for a plethora of noisy keep fit classes.

Don't these people need some sort of permission to run these activities?

I would appreciate a formal reply from an appropriate person in office.

Alan Spink
Whetstone Lane
Aldridge

What a lovely time we all had

MY FRIEND Ann and I would like to thank the Bloxwich Carnival committee for inviting us to the senior citizens party held at the Bloxwich Baths on the afternoon of Thursday, July 14.

What a lovely time we had. Lovely food and refreshments served by the 196 Air Training Corps. The teenagers worked really hard and were very friendly and helpful.

We also had wonderful entertainment, a trumpet player, an accordion players, plus school children from the Mossley singing, two ballet dancers and a boy singer, plus free raffle prizes.

A big thank you to all.

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Friends group raises £65,000 for hospice

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MORE than £65,000 has been donated to Walsall's new £5.5 million hospice by a fundraising group.

Members of the Sister Dora Friends Group have donated £65,280 to the new St Giles Walsall Hospice, which opened its doors in Goscote earlier this year.

Around £35,000 was collected over four years, while a further £20,183 was left to the group by Sally Taylor, step-mother of member Margaret Flower.The Sister Dora Friends Group then topped up the legacy with £30,000.

Some has been spent on bathroom facilities at the Goscote Lane hospice and some will sponsor a nurse, to be known as the Sister Dora nurse, for two years.

Dedication

Pat Till, treasurer for the Friends, said: "The facilities at the hospice are out of this world and everyone is over the moon about what we have helped to accomplish.

"The idea to raise money for a bathroom was first put forward in 2007. Now the dream has become a reality and we are very proud."

Peter Holliday, St Giles Hospice chief executive, said: "The Sister Dora Friends Group have raised a magnificent amount of money through their determination, dedication and initiative."

Pat Till, right, with Sister Dora nurse Angie Greenwood, centre, and Margaret Flowers

New hope for vacant shop unit

NEW life is to be breathed into a vacant shop unit in Walsall under plans submitted to the council.

The building, on the corner of High Street and Baker's Lane, Aldridge, is set to be changed into three or four units for businesses.

The building used to be occupied by general stores and an art gallery, but is now redundant, and the new scheme would attract new businesses, it is hoped.

Comment

David Tranter, for developer Group 3 Technology, said: "There lies the opportunity to revitalise the area, and bring a sense of aesthetic appeal and economic growth to the immediate and wider vicinity.

"The site is situated within the established High Street of Aldridge town centre."

Anyone who would like to view or comment on the application can log on to Walsall Council's planning pages at www.walsall.gov.uk

New date for blood donors

THE National Blood Service is appealing for volunteers to donate blood next Tuesday, August 2, at Beechdale Community Centre, Stephenson Square, Walsall, from 1.30pm-3.30pm and 4.30pm-7.30pm.

Call 0300 123 23 to book.

Arboretum gallery joy for volunteers

A NEW £50,000 gallery garden is to be created at Walsall Arboretum thanks to cash secured by two of the park's volunteers.

It will offer artists, photographers, residents, schools and community groups the chance to showcase their work. The gallery garden is believed to be one of the first of its kind in the country in a public park.

Part of the garden is set aside for horticultural design students to display ideas, while a new rockery and stone steps linking two terraces will also be created.

Arboretum User Group members Jackie Cocken and Jo Lester made the application for funding and will be responsible for delivering the project.

Groundwork Black Country will carry out the scheme on behalf of the Big Lottery Fund.

Leisure chief Anthony Harris said: "We believe this is one of the first gallery gardens in the country and are over the moon that the Arboretum User Group has been successful in its funding bid – putting Walsall on the map."

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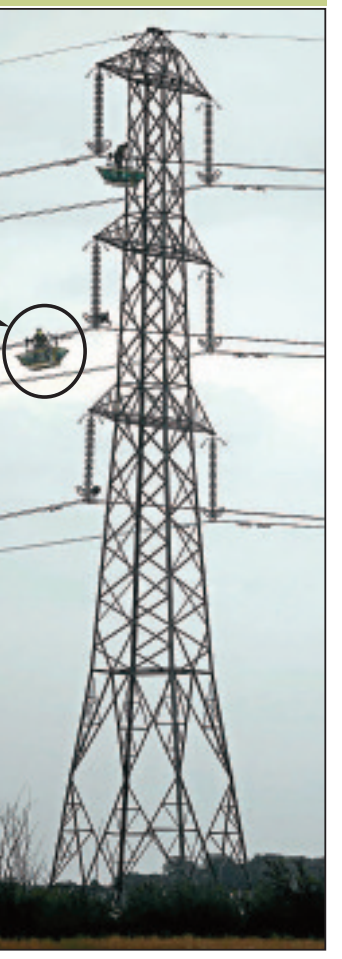
A worker in a cable car on overhead cables near Aldridge



Pylon projects are not for the faint-hearted

Engineers need head for heights

NERVELESS engineers in cable cars can be seen sliding along overhead electricity lines in the Black Country and Staffordshire as part of an £11 million National Grid maintenance scheme.

Almost 11 miles of overhead electricity lines are being replaced and 52 pylons refurbished as work is carried out in Walsall, Great Barr, Sutton Coldfield and Staffordshire.

The maintenance programme is taking place on lines and pylons stretching between the M5/M6 junction at Great Barr through to Mile Oak near Tamworth.

Scaffolding has been put around the pylons and workers can be seen dangling many metres above the ground.

Investment

Jane Taylor, spokeswoman for National Grid, said: "In order to ensure that everyone has the power they require, safely and on demand, the electricity network has to be kept in first class working order.

"National Grid's ongoing overhead line refurbishment programme represents a substantial investment in the region's power network."

walsallchronicle
@expressandstar.co.uk

Under the scheme, insulators, conductor wire and fittings will be replaced and pylon towers strengthened.

Initial tree cutting work took place in March this year to prepare the ground for the scaffolding work.

Work will be carried out on the pylons until around September and is being done by the Electricity Alliance, a partnership between National Grid and 15 construction companies.

After completing the work, National Grid will reinstate the areas they have been working in, including tree planting and creating habitats for wildlife.

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Common hosts its own 'Glasto'

PELSALL hosts its very own version of Glastonbury this Saturday as Walsall bands lay on a day of live music.

The first Pelsall Music Live takes place on Pelsall North Common from 11am-6pm, organised by a group of musicians and sound engineers.

Rebecca Menear, of Musicians for Life, began planning the day in March and sourced help from Pelsall Pride and Walsall Council's parks department.

Proceeds from various will be donated to the British Heart Foundation in memory of Rebecca's friend Vanessa Bridge, who died in 2006.

Support

One of the two stage marquees for the alcohol-free festival has been named after Vanessa, with the other being the Electric Pride Marquee.

Bands on the bill include Loud Whispers, The 2 n 8s, Fiddler on the Hoof and Hit Squad. Youngsters from Shelfield Community Academy and Ryders Hayes Community Academy will also perform.

"We think it's a good way to remember Vanessa, who was such a lovely person," Rebecca said.

"Everybody involved has been absolutely brilliant and the support has been fantastic.

"Councillor Garry Perry, John Millard from the parks department and David Woods, from Pelsall Pride, have been a huge help."

Stalls, face painting, rides and a bouncy castle have also been lined up.

Pelsall Music Live organiser Rebecca Menear with Aislinn Menear, aged five, and Morrigan Birch, seven, sound engineer Bruno Edwards (centre) and musicians Paul Menear and Andy Cargill (front)

Illegal alcohol seized

A HAUL of almost 700,000 cigarettes and 50 litres of alcohol were uncovered under floorboards at properties in Walsall.

A pulley system was in place to raise and lower the huge stash Officers from HM Revenue and Customs swooped on two shops in Caldmore Green and residential premises.

The raid was carried out on Thursday, July 14, and the loss to public funds on the goods is believed to be around £220,000.

No arrests were made in the raids, but £12,000 cash was seized.

Richard's bus trek triumph

A TRANSPORT campaigner from Walsall who was taking on a round-England tour using only his bus pass has returned from a successful adventure which lasted 14 days.

Former Walsall mayor Richard Worrall carried out the bus marathon to raise awareness of the changes in services due to cuts.

He travelled more than 2,000 miles on more than 90 buses to help people understand the value of the free bus pass for pensioners.

Mr Worrall, 66, of Birchills, was joined by three others following an appeal.

Outdoor

"The tour aroused interest from young and old wherever the team went in out round-England bus marathon tops," he said.

"We were greeted by friends, relatives and pensioners' groups at many points on their journey."

Mr Worrall was joined by Dennis Roberts, of Bradley, and John Breeze, of Cannock. Aldridge's Lesley Ireson did the first week.

Mr Worrall was raising cash to help an outdoor education centre Bryntysilio, in Wales, which is used by Walsall schoolchildren.

Showtime for village choir

A VILLAGE choir performs an evening of musical showstoppers at Walsall town hall on Friday, September 16.

Beacon Park Village Choir takes the stage at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10, and include cheese and wine. For more details, call 01922 652072.

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thechronicle

Police pay experts £3.8m to slash jobs

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

CASH-strapped West Midlands Police has spent £3.8 million on consultants in a year as it sheds hundreds of jobs and tries to save £125 million.

Experts were brought in to advise on major shake-ups of the force which saw the number of Black Country policing divisions merged from eight to four and a greater emphasis on putting bobbies on the beat.

The number of officers in the force has fallen over the last year by 450, meaning there were just 8,032 as of April 1.

A recruitment freeze and the restructure, together with the forced retirement of officers with more than 30 years of experience have all contributed to the reduction.

The figures are revealed in reports to the police authority this week in which the force also sets out ways it has saved money.

It has saved £32,000 thanks to a reduction in prices for DNA sampling kits and shaved £105,000 from its phone bills.

Specialists

West Midlands Police has defended the use of consultants at the force, which is shedding more than 2,000 jobs.

Spokesman Lee Page said the need to save £125 million over four years had triggered an "urgent review of the way we do business to streamline our work and identify challenging cost savings".

He said: "One of the ways of doing this is to adopt an 'invest to save' methodology. Using this approach we believe we can bring about substantial annual savings in policing costs.

"The consultants we are using are specialists and have a proven track record of working with other forces and achieving significant cost savings."

He said the work had already resulted in "substantial savings" for the force.

Mr Page added: "In addition, they will fundamentally change and improve the way in which we carry out our business, streamlining many of our systems."

Church hosts jumble sale

REEDSWOOD Methodist Church, in Edward Street, Walsall, hosts a jumble sale this Saturday, July 30, from 10.30am

Sixty years and counting

Gwen and George Hathaway celebrate their anniversary

A WALSALL• woman who married "the boy next door" has been celebrating with him as they mark their 60th anniversary.

Gwen and George Hathaway lived five doors away from each other in Delves as they grew up.

The couple, now aged 83 and 84, of Blakemore Road, Walsall Wood, have six children, 19 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Gwen said their marriage stood the test of time because they just "take it as it comes".

The pair started seeing each other when George came back from the Army to work on the railways.

They married at St Andrew's Church in Walstead Road, Delves, in 1951, and had children Susan, 59, Janet, 58, Gary, 56, David, 52, George, 50 and Shaun, 46.

Gwen says she loves nothing more than seeing her large family.

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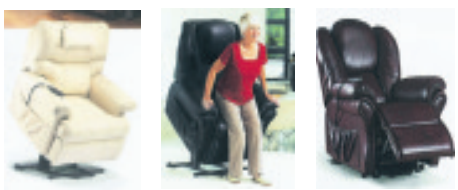

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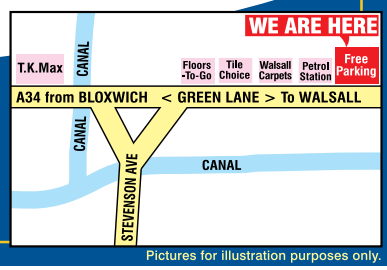

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King of natural history

LOCAL HERITAGE

STUART WILLIAMS, of Walsall Local History Centre, the archives service and local studies library, looks at some remarkable and inspirational people who are associated with your borough.

The British Museum in the 1890s. Walsall-born John Edward Gray worked tirelessly for more than half a century to make its natural history collection the most extensive in the world, and eventually became keeper

An Indian Pond Heron (ardeola grayii) in Kolkata (Calcutta), West Bengal, India. *Picture courtesy J.M. Garg*

HAVE you ever visited the world-famous Natural History Museum in London?

Then you may be interested to discover that its collections are descended from the work of a Walsall man.

John Edward Gray was born in Walsall on February 12, 1800, the second son of Samuel Frederick Gray, a botanist and pharmacologist who had moved from London to Walsall to establish an assay office after marrying Elizabeth Forfeit in 1794.Later in 1800, they returned to London.

Gray never went to school, but his parents taught him to read and write, and he educated himself using the Encyclopaedia Britannica. Who could have guessed then that he was destined for a remarkable career in science?

Around 1812-15, young John helped his father in his Wapping pharmacy, but the business failed and Gray assisted a doctor in Shoreditch before working in a chemist's laboratory. Encouraged by his father to become a doctor, in the 1820s he began studying, but hated surgery and this, together with being rejected for an assistantship at the British Museum, may have caused his nervous breakdown in 1822, and he gave up medicine.

He recovered with the help of Maria Emma Gray, his cousin's widow, and her friends, and in 1826 he married Maria, who later became scientifically active herself. Theirs was a long and happy marriage, and she became his constant companion and helper.

Collections

About 1816, Gray met Dr W. E. Leach, of the British Museum, after which he spent all his spare time naming and organising the zoological collections at Montagu House. Thanks to Leach he met other naturalists, whose encouragement inspired him to take up zoology.

In 1821, at Gray's suggestion, his father published the controversial A Natural Arrangement of British Plants, part of which he was responsible for. It was not well received and, in addition to failing to mention an important scientist, this probably resulted in Gray being blackballed from election to the Linnean Society in 1822, though he was finally accepted in 1857. This made him more determined than ever to succeed in science and be more combative.

After helping J.G. Children, keeper of the British Museum's zoological department, with their shell collection, in 1824 Gray was offered a temporary job compiling a Catalogue of Reptiles. He completed the shell catalogue and published 30 scientific papers that year.

Over the next 50 years he worked tirelessly to make the museum's natural history collections the most extensive, best known, best exhibited, most freely available and only catalogued exhibition of its kind.

By 1832, Gray's reputation was such that Colonel W. H Sykes, who first described the Indian Pond Heron in the 1832 edition of The Proceedings of the Zoological Society, named it Ardeola grayii in his honour.

His evidence to the 1836 Parliamentary Select Committee on the British Museum brought about change there, including separating the mineralogical and zoological departments, plus his own appointment as assistant keeper in 1837. He became keeper in 1840, and began the first register of accessions, increasing publications about the collections. Gray eventually published more than 1,100 papers, as well as five books.

The growth of the museum's collections was entirely thanks to Gray's efforts, despite lack of money and opposition from the administration.

He wrote many lists and catalogues on mammals and reptiles, using outside specialists when needed, but could spend very little. Full of energy and enthusiasm, he unfortunately made mistakes by attempting to do too much too quickly, without sufficient material and support.

According to some, a lack of field knowledge led to him introducing too many genera and species. Nonetheless, in 1854 Munich University made him an honorary doctor of philosophy, recognising his forming of the largest zoological collection in Europe. But apart from science he was also a social reformer. He advocated free access to museums, he proposed decimalisation, and he was also the world's first recorded stamp collector.

Eminent Victorian John Edward Gray in the 1860s

Elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1832, Gray was a founder member of the Zoological Society (1826) and Vice-President 1865–74, a founder member of the Royal Geographical Society (1830), the Entomological Society (1833, President 1858–9), the Botanical Society of London (1836, President, 1836–57), and the Palaeontographical Society (1847).

Judicious

From his 60s, Gray was rarely well, suffering mild strokes and periods of near-blindness. Never fully recovering from a stroke in 1869, he worked on until December 1874. He died, in his official apartment at the British Museum, on March 7, 1875, leaving no children, and was buried at St Mary's, Lewisham.

Gray helped make the British Museum one of the world's most important; the Natural History Museum's collections are descended from his work and that of his equally enthusiastic younger brother, George Gray, who became head of the ornithological section.

Warm-hearted, judicious, kind, and someone who was always ready to help students, John Edward Gray occasionally got into scientific scrapes. But undeniably he deserves today to be well-remembered in his place of birth – as possibly Walsall's greatest man of science.

For local and family history, drop into Walsall Local History Centre, in Essex Street, which is part of Walsall Council. For more information, log on to www.walsall.gov.uk/localhistorycentre or call 01922 721305.

thechronicle

Disgraced detective is cleared

A DISGRACED former Walsall police detective who cheated taxpayers out of more than £3,600 in a benefits con has had a separate charge of shoplifting dropped.

Stephen Murphy, from Aldridge, had pleaded not guilty to the theft of £23.26 worth of groceries from Asda in Cannock on January 19.

Stephen Murphy

The charge was dropped after Stafford Crown Court was told that Murphy had been convicted of benefit fraud since the case was brought

Mr Glyn Samuels, prosecuting, said: "Since the charge, this defendant has been sentenced for a matter of fraud over a period of three years from the local authority. In these circumstances, he has ceased to be a West Midlands Police officer – he resigned.

Judge

"Given what has happened in the fraud matter, it has been the decision of the Crown Prosecution Service that it is no longer in the public interest to pursue a matter of £23-worth of groceries."

Murphy, aged 40, of Pinfold Lane, Aldridge, was then found not guilty of theft by Judge Mark Eades.

Mr Harpreet Sandhu, for Murphy, said his client did not have the benefit of legal aid.

Earlier this month the former detective constable, who cheated Walsall Council taxpayers out of more than £3,600 in a benefits con, was ordered to do unpaid community work.

Wages fall for workers

AVERAGE wages in Walsall saw a drop of £500 over the past three years, according to latest figures.

Pay fell from £22,537 in 2008 to £22,169 in 2010.

Sandwell residents saw their pay go up in the recession from £21,200 to £22,333., but Wolverhampton's wages fell faster than anywhere else in the UK by more than £1,000

The West Midlands saw a slight rise from £23,807 to £23,902 a year while the United Kingdom average pay rose from £25,123 to £25,879.

thechronicle

Grand crew forge link to French wine

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

A BLACK Country metal working firm is the toast of French wine makers because its pioneering product is helping to revolutionise age-old techniques of growing grapes.

Hadley Group makes steel vine support posts which have started to replace the traditional wooden stakes which have dominated French vineyards for centuries. The impact has also been beneficial to the supply chain.

Darren Millward, director of Hadley Rollform Sections

Raw materials and galvanising of the finished products is sourced by Hadley Group from businesses based in Willenhall.

The product took off two years ago when French champagne growers started making the switch to the lighter, stronger metal posts.

Traditional

Since then a delegation of claret producers from Bordeaux has travelled to the West Midlands to see for themselves how the posts are manufactured at the group's Rollforms Sections factory in Downing Street, Smethwick.

Darren Millard, director of Hadley Rollform Sections, said the group's France-based sales team came up with the idea of supplying the steel vine posts and Hadley then became the first UK company ever to win a contract to supply steel support pickets in the Champagne region of north-east France.

He explained: "We selected France for this new product. If we could be successful there then the rest of the world would listen.

"The French market is very traditional in its nature with established practices and an overwhelming majority of local suppliers. We developed the product for one of the leading wine co-operatives and built positive local relationships demonstrating via prototypes designed and manufactured in Smethwick.

"We proved their durability, greater grip in the soil and compatibility with mechanical harvesting.

"Our patented Ultrasteel process ensures that the vine posts are lighter yet 20 per cent stronger than plain steel pickets and utilise less steel, making them more cost effective to use over larger areas of land."

The product has been a huge hit with wine producers – and not just in France. Since its first major order for 140,000 metres, Hadley has started supplying the posts to growers in Germany, Romania and Spain as well as vineyards in the UK.

Wine producers and representatives of wholesaler Maisadour, which sells vine posts in France, at Hadley Group with examples of the product destined for Bordeaux at Hadley Group, Smethwick

Burglars spotted hiding in a field

TWO burglars have each been locked up for 22 months after being caught red handed by a police helicopter immediately after raiding a Walsall house.

Shane Winter, aged 20, and Mark Williams, 27, smashed a back window to break into the premises in Ashton Drive, while it was empty one morning, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Detained

They escaped with £400 worth of property including an engagement ring and electrical goods, said Mr Mark Rees, prosecuting.

The pair were arrested soon afterwards when officers in a West Midlands Police helicopter spotted them attempting to hide in a nearby field.

Mr Glyn Whitehouse, defending, said Williams had a £30-a-day drug habit as well as 23 previous court appearances and was on bail accused of interfering with motor vehicles at the time of the offence.

Winter, of Harden Road, Walsall, and Williams, of Keats Road, admitted burglary.

Williams was sent to prison and Winter was ordered to be detained in a young offenders' institution.

Police station remains

THE long-awaited new police station in Walsall looks set to be built on the site of the force's current base in Green Lane.

It had been thought the new £12.7 million station would be created closer to the town centre on land in Hatherton Street.

Council and police chiefs had been in talks over the Challenge Building, which was highlighted as the preferred site.But West Midlands Police confirmed the favoured option is now to flatten the current station and rebuild there.

West Midlands Police Authority said: "The force has for some time recognised a need to replace its main HQ in Walsall."

Homes' net gain

UP TO 7,500 homes in Aldridge can soon benefit from faster internet connection after BT unveiled plans to roll out its copper broadband service.

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- Member No 2379 Diane lost 2st 25 inches in 11 weeks
- Member No 1784 Michelle lost 9lb 16 1/4 inches in 9 weeks
- Janet lost 1st 14 3/4 inches in 8 weeks
- Debby lost 1st 10lb, 30 inches in 10 weeks
- Member No 1863 Timmins lost 1st 6 inches in 8 weeks
- Diane lost 2st 7lbs 34 inches
- Gemma lost 2st 36 inches
- Member No 2369 Cockrane lost 11lbs 5 inches in 8 weeks
- Melanie lost 2st 7lb 29 inches in 14 weeks

Keeping it in the family!

Many mother and daughter members of all ages are enjoying the experience of exercising together.
Three generations of the same family arrived one day for a guest visit and it was a pleasure to enrol grandmother Mary Bishop, daughter Julie Gill and grandaughter Sarah Gill into the growing number of members.
Caught on camera with instructor Amy, Sarah, Mary and Julie relax before starting their 30 minute workout.

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£50 vouchers for 10 lucky winners to spend in store

TO CELEBRATE the unveiling of a revamped Wilkinson store in Walsall, the home and garden retailer, situated in the Quasar Centre, Townsend Square, is offering 10 lucky Walsall Chronicle readers the chance to win £50-worth of vouchers to spend in store.

The store will be closed on Wednesday, August 3, and re-opens on Thursday, August 4, at 9am.

Guests

Wilkinson's head of multi-channel, Simon Hathway, and store manager Carol Ballinger will cut the ceremonial ribbon alongside special guests from Walsall Rugby Club, including the first team captain, Steve Halbert, and the director of rugby, Bob Harding.

A raffle for Wilkinson's charity of the year, Age UK, will also be hosted at the store and customers will have the chance to win a hamper full of Wilkinson "Back to School" essentials from the new seasonal range.

The fun continues on Saturday, August 6, when a children's face painter will be in store to transform children into a variety of animals, flowers and fun characters from 10am to 4pm.

Some of the homeware and garden furniture in store at the new-look Wilkinson opening in Walsall's Quasar Centre

HOW TO ENTER

To enter the competition, simply answer the following question:

What time will the store officially re-open on Thursday, August 4?

a. 9am
b. 10am
c. 11am

Post your answer to WILKINSON COMPETITION, Walsall Chronicle, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES. The closing date for entries is Thursday, August 11.

The winners will be picked at random and notified.

wilkinson
The home of family value

Terms and conditions:

1. Only one entry per person
2. Vouchers cannot be exchanged for cash
3. Entry must also contain the contact name and address and the phone number
4. The editor's decision is final.

Sorry, we're a bit slow fixing Lazy Hill Road

COUNCIL chiefs have apologised over delays in repairing pothole ridden roads in Walsall.

Improvements to Friezland Lane, Brownhills, and Lazy Hill Road, Aldridge, were hit by hold-ups.

It was expected that potholes along Lazy Hill Road from Aldridge towards Stonnall would be completed around Easter. Most of the scheme has now been finished, but

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

further water proofing treatment is planned for next month.

There have also been delays in filling in holes in Friezland Lane, with parked cars blamed for preventing completion of the work. Some temporary repairs on areas missed have been completed and were expected to be fully finished this week.

Aldridge North & Walsall Wood's Councillor Mike Flower wrote to Walsall Council over the problems.

Referring to Lazy Hill Road hold-ups, acting chief executive Rory Borealis said: "I would like to apologise on behalf of the council.

Emergency

"Changes to start dates given to residents were caused by works by Severn Trent Water and a failure with the Tarmac equipment.

"In future, the council will either drop or knock doors on the day to inform residents. This treatment is scheduled to be completed by the end of August but cannot be applied when the highway is wet."

In response to concerns over work in Friezland Lane Keith Stone, assistant director for neighbourhood services, said: "A number of potholes were marked up by the council for repair in March. Our contractor did complete repairs to some of the potholes.

"I have instructed the contractor to temporarily infill the potholes to make them safe and then a permanent repair will be carried out."

Train plans are raising concerns

COUNCIL bosses have written to London Midland objecting to the withdrawal of two peak-time trains on a well-used commuter route through Walsall.

Cannock Chase Council claims it would lead to overcrowding after a recent survey revealed a third of passengers on some Chase Line trains already have to stand.

Passengers face losing the 6.21am Rugeley to Birmingham and 7.39am Hednesford to Birmingham services which travel through Cannock and Walsall.

London Midland plans to replace them with two new services leaving Rugeley at 5.55am and 8.06am. It also wants to reduce the capacity of the 4.39pm Birmingham to Rugeley service. The loss of the 07.39 from Hednesford to Birmingham would leave a 36-minute gap at peak times.

To help counter the impact, London Midland is proposing to add another carriage to the following train from Rugeley.

Free fun day for RSPCA

THE RSPCA in Walsall is hosting a free summer fun day to raise funds for more than 60 animals currently in their care.

The event will be held at Pelsall Community Centre, on Saturday from 11am until 2pm.

There will be many stalls including tombola, refreshments, RSPCA merchandise, children's games and a raffle with a gas BBQ and digital camera up for grabs.

For more information or to donate items of bric-a-brac call 0845 272 3570 or drop in at the Walsall branch.

Charity fundraisers

Shaylor business development executive Ian Kilvington and chief executive Stephen Shaylor present the cheque to Susan White of Marie Curie Cancer Care

STAFF at Aldridge construction company Shaylor Group have put their fitness levels and brain power to the test for charity and have raised more than £6,000 for Marie Curie Cancer Care's Big Build appeal.

The money has been raised through a series of events which included a 10km walk through Shugborough Estate and a football match. The company also took part in the Marie Curie Birmingham Brain Game event, a corporate quiz dinner held in October.

Stephen Shaylor, chief executive of Shaylor Group, gave a cheque for £6,358.63 to Susan White, Birmingham development fundraiser for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Stephen said: "We are delighted to have raised so much money for Marie Curie's Big Build appeal."

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Launch event is a great success

A HIGH profile event at Portcullis House in Westminster was the venue for Walsall College to launch its own awarding organisation, asfi (accredited skills for industry).

The aim is to lead innovative partnerships between further education and industry.

Walsall College is one of the first in the UK to establish its own awarding organisation and enhance the support it offers to employers.

Asfi has been created in partnership with employers and focuses on supporting companies to develop and accredit training programmes to meet their needs. It allows employers to create required qualifications."

Over the past year, asfi has embarked upon a programme of developing a generation of industry-led vocational qualifications in a range of areas.

Speakers included Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz, Association of Colleges chief executive Martin Doel and Allan E Cook, chairman of Semta, the sector skills council for science, engineering and manufacturing technologies.

Sue Reynolds, managing director of asfi, said: "The launch event was a fantastic way to celebrate the tremendous success we have achieved so far."

Amarjit Basi, principal and chief executive of Walsall College, Chris Hunt, member of the board for asfi, Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz and Sue Reynolds, managing director of asfi

School's out forever for staff

LONG-serving school workers in the Black Country and Staffordshire have been bidding a final fond farewell to pupils and colleagues.

Austin Cheminais, who has served Walsall pupils for almost 40 years, was one of those saying a fond farewell to teaching.

Mr Cheminais has been in charge at Rushall JMI School in Walsall for more than 16 years.

The 57-year-old began his teaching career at Harden Primary, Goldsmith Road, in 1975. He then taught at Delves Junior, Bell Lane, then moved to Leighswood Primary, Aldridge, where he was deputy head before being appointed head at Rushall. He said: " "It has been a privilege and the best job in the world. I have been a teacher in Walsall for 36 years.

And he said he was thankful to be able to walk after being run over by a van in the school car park a year ago.

He was airlifted to Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham and made a good recovery after initial fears he may lose the use of his legs.

He and his wife Jane, a retired teacher, plan to move to a new home in Llangollen, Wales, where they will be closer to three of their four children who are based in Merseyside.

Other retiring heads in Walsall are Elaine Stringer, of Fullbrook Nursery, Bell Lane, Delves; Jan Taylor, of Leighswood Primary, Broadmeadow, Aldridge; and Mike Wheeler, of Salisbury Primary, Salisbury Street, Darlaston.

Meanwhile, Seven members of staff from Cheslyn Hay called it a day with 190 years of service between them, all retired on the same day.

These included site supervisor Michael Rushton, 61, from Pelsall, who worked at the school for 33 years.

Woman on raids charge

A WOMAN accused of targeting elderly women in two distraction burglaries was remanded in custody by magistrates.

Kelly Nolan, aged 29, of Rowley Street, Walsall, is accused of burglary on June 26 and July 3 at the Yew Tree estate, and failing to attend a drugs test.

She was remanded in custody at Sandwell Magistrates last week and will next appear on August 22 for a committal hearing.

Family tree advice

HISTORY buffs wishing to learn about their family tree can seek advice at Walsall Local History Centre. A one-hour introductory course runs at the Essex Street centre from 2-3pm every first Thursday.

The free sessions must be booked in advance on 01922 721305.They are led by archivist Ruth Vyse.

Garden is created

A TEAM of green-fingered lawyers joined forces with a national charity to create a special sensory garden at a care home.

The team from Irwin Mitchell solicitors helped out at Lysways House in Walsall.

They joined Action on Hearing Loss, formerly the Royal National Institute for Deafness, to work on the project.

No fees for 'blue badge' car drivers

PARKING fees will not be introduced for disabled drivers in Walsall after transport chiefs rejected the controversial move.

The introduction of car park charges for blue badge holders was being considered by the cash-strapped council in a review of parking. But the proposal, which has been adopted by other authorities across the country, has been quashed by transport boss, Councillor Tom Ansell. It was suggested blue badge holders should be charged the same fees as other members of the public.

It came after research showed such an approach was used in Weymouth and Portland. The full review by a designated parking working group will go before the decision-making cabinet in the coming weeks.

Summer

But Councillor Ansell said: "At this stage we are not introducing charges for blue badge holders. It is not the appropriate time to introduce new charges when we are already looking at charges we have in existence."

It comes after Walsall Manor Hospital decided to introduce charges for blue badge holders for the first time earlier this summer.

Andrew Moult, of Walsall Disability Forum, said they were pleased and had been working with the council to produce booklets showing where disabled people could park in the town centre. This could now be extended to the district centres of Aldridge, Bloxwich, Brownhills, Darlaston and Willenhall.

The council is looking to waive on-street parking charges for the first half hour on streets where businesses have struggled.

Melody Hossaini with pupils David Twohey, aged 14, and Lauren Jones, 12

Apprentice Melody goes back to school

SHE shot to stardom on The Apprentice as the super-confident lass from a village near Walsall who was sure she was destined for great things.

Melody Hossaini showed she had not forgotten her roots despite her new fame when she popped into her old school to hand out awards to pupils.

The 26-year-old, who came close to making the TV final before being fired by Lord Sugar, returned to Great Wyrley Performing Arts School last Tuesday.

The founder of a global youth consultancy says she owes her success to her experiences at the Hall Lane school, where she struggled to settle after joining at 13 and was teased.

Firm charged over packaging exports

A WASTE management company must pay more than £8,000 after exporting packaging to China without consent.

Greenstar Environmental Ltd ,which operates a waste management facility in Northgate, Aldridge, had a licence to export to France for reprocessing. But in February last year a routine audit by the Environment Agency discovered Greenstar had exported 860 tonnes of plastic packaging waste to a company in China.

At Walsall magistrates court they admitted a charge under the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Waste Packaging) Regulations. They were fined £3,500 with £4,864.20 costs and £15 victim surcharge.

Pupils bang drum about saving water

STUDENTS at a Willenhall school marched to the beat of African drums to raise awareness about saving water.

More than 200 pupils from Pool Hayes Arts and Community School, Castle Drive marched around the school's playing fields as part of Oxfam's national Water Week.

The Year Seven students were accompanied by African drums played by the school's head of music Phil Hickman.

Anne Plimmer, library manager and project organiser, said: "The students completed several laps of our playing fields and after the first lap, each person collected a bottle of water before continuing to march."

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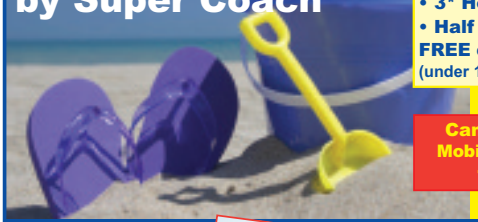

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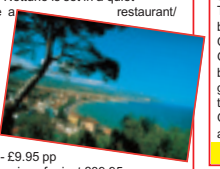

Great value **optional** excursions:

- Monaco & Monte Carlo - £19.95 pp
- Riviera of Flowers and Porto Fino - £19.95 pp
- Half day visit to San Remo - £9.95 pp

Special Offer - Book all 3 excursions for just £39.95pp

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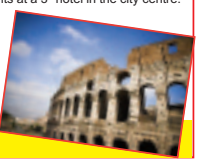
Rome is an extraordinary city of spectacular buildings, bustling piazzas, colourful markets, designed stores and world famous landmarks. We stay for 5 nights at a 3* hotel in the city centre.

Optional excursions:

- Vatican - tour including guide - £30 per person
- Walking tour of the Colosseum and Forum - £25 per person
- Pompeii - £29 per person



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Hotel Walram

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Great optional excursions:

- Antwerp - £9.95 per person
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Special Offer: Book both excursions for just £17pp

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Rhine & Wine 'Free Bar' Break
Hotel Wagner

Discover the magnificent Rhine & Moselle Valley with its wonderful scenery, fairytale castles, villages and half timbered houses. Hotel Wagner is set in the pleasant village of Camp Bornhofen. Dinner is included on each night and, as well, a 'free bar' with free draught beer, red or white wine and soft drinks between 7.30 and 11pm.

Optional excursions:

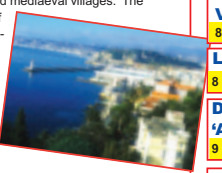
- Koblenz - £9.95pp
- Rudesheim - £9.95pp

Special Offer: Book both excursions for just £17.95 pp

4 Days • 3 Nights - 19 September from £149.95

French Riviera

Be swept away by the opulence and sophistication of this glamorous area. On the sun drenched stretch of coastline there are luxurious resorts and mediaeval villages. The Mercure is set in the centre of the charming town of Grasse - the world capital of perfume. Dinner is included on each night.



Optional excursions:

- Nice and Menton - £15 per person
- Monaco and Monte Carlo - £15 per person
- St Tropez and scenic coastal drive - £15 per person

Special Offer: Book all 3 excursions for just £40 pp

8 Days • 7 Nights - 08 October from £399.95

Lake Garda Super Savers

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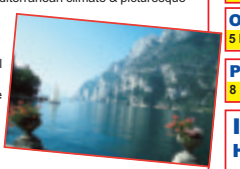
Optional excursions:

- Lake Garda circular tour taking in the capital of Lake Garda - Garda, and a stop at Malcesine - £9.95 pp
- Verona - £9.95 pp
- Venice - Price: £29.95



Special Offer: Book all 3 excursions for just £39.95 per person

7 Days • 6 Nights - 30 October & 06 November from £199.95

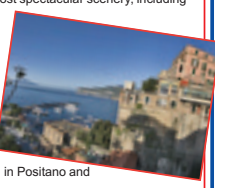
Antwerp & Ghent - 4* Crowne Plaza Hotel

Enjoy a weekend break combining a visit to central Antwerp - an international port and leading fashion design city. There is a great selection of bars, cafes and restaurants. On day 3 we visit beautiful Ghent famed for its culture and beautiful old buildings. A guided tour is included. We stay at the top class 4* Crowne Plaza Hotel set on the outskirts of Ghent. Features include an extensive buffet breakfast and sauna, indoor pool & gym.

3 Days • 2 Nights - 05 August & 07 October - from £99.95

Sorrento & the Amalfi Coast

Discover some of Europe's most spectacular scenery, including the Amalfi coastline.



Day 2 - We 'stop over' in the Lake Garda area
Day 3 - Travel through Tuscany to the Sorrento Peninsular area
Day 4 - We have an optional visit to the Island of Capri - £59.95 per person
Day 5 - We have included a tour of the Amalfi coast taking in Positano and the Ravello
Day 6 - You can join our optional visit to Pompeii and Vesuvius - £39.95 per person
Day 7 - Join our optional visit to Naples - £19.95 pp
Day 8 - We 'stop over' in the Lake Garda area
Day 9 - We Travel to Eastern France for the night
Day 10 - Continue journey home

Special Offer: Book all 3 excursions for just £99.95 pp

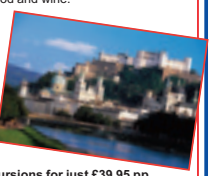
10 Days • 9 Nights - 30 September from £399.95

Austria Super Saver
3* Hotel Kitzbuhler Alpen

Here is a chance to enjoy the splendour of Austria's scenic glory - with its fairytale castles, green flower sprinkled meadows, sparkling mountain air, good food and wine.

Optional Excursions:

- Zell am See & Kitzbuhel - £9.95 per person
- Munich - don't miss the Frauenkirche Cathedral and the City Hall with its famous glockenspiel - £19.95 per person
- Salzburg - one of Europe's best preserved cities - £15.95



Special Offer: Book all 3 excursions for just £39.95 pp

7 Days • 6 Nights - 01 October from £199.95

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Price Includes:

- 2 nights bed & Continental breakfast accommodation en route
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Optional Excursions: The Dolomites - £22.95pp, Lake Garda - £19.95 pp, Merano and Caldaro for incl. wine tasting - £22.95 pp

Special Offer: Book all 3 excursions for just £39.95 pp

7 Days • 6 Nights - 01 October from £199.95

Paris Weekends

3 Days • 2 Nights - 19 August, 6 September, 21 October £129.95, 11 November from £99.95

Lake Garda - with optional visits to Venice & Verona

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Lido di Jesolo, Venice & Slovenia

8 Days • 7 Nights - 27 August from £399.95

Diano Marina - Italian Riviera 'All Inclusive' - 3* Hotel Nettuno

9 Days • 8 Nights - 20 August from £549.95

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01 August, 05 September, 10 October from £199.95

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4 Days • 3 Nights: 26 August & 21 October from £199.95

Ostend's Golden Coast

5 Days • 4 Nights - Half Board 22 August - from £199.95

Prague - City of 100 Spires

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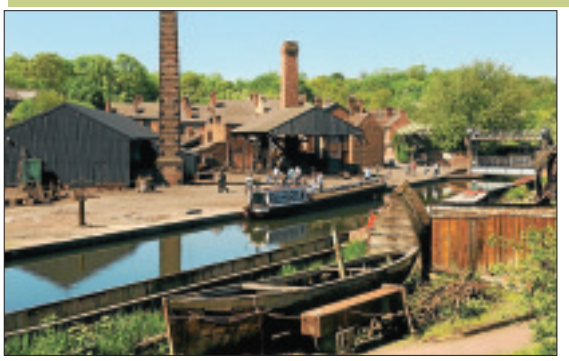
History comes to life at the living museum



One of the museum's most popular attractions is its canal trips

A great day out is yours to be had at the Black Country Living Museum

During its 36 year history, the Black Country Living Museum has established itself as the region's number one venue for local history and culture.

The museum was established in 1975 and opened in 1978 and is held in trust for the benefit of the public.

It comprises notable buildings from across the four Black Country boroughs of Sandwell, Walsall, Wolverhampton and Dudley, many of which were dismantled brick by brick before being rebuilt at the museum.

It has grown in size and scope, having assumed responsibility for collections made by Dudley Museum and Art Gallery and having taken over the buildings and collections of the Lock Museum, in Willenhall, in 2003. The museum covers 26 acres and comprises rebuilt historic buildings in the shadow of Dudley Castle. The land was partially reclaimed from a former railway goods yard and disused lime kilns and former coal pits, though there have been further additions.

Identity

A spokesman for the museum said: "The story of the Black Country is distinctive because of the scale, drama, intensity and multiplicity of the industrial might that was unleashed here.

"Lying in the long shadow of Britain's second city, Birmingham, the Black Country has, through its manufactures and its people established its own very particular identity. The industrial landscape was entirely new at the time and the scene – 'black by day and red by night' – horrified and fascinated contemporaries.

"Our mission at the Museum is 'to engage hearts and minds through the best use of our collections to inspire the widest possible audience about the story of the Black Country – the world's first industrial landscape'."

The museum recreates life as it might have been during the 19th and early 20th century thanks to a group of volunteers, who populate houses and shops.

Impressive

It has managed to preserve a nucleus of Black Country industrial buildings, bridges and street furnishings and there are also extensive collections of equipment, products and other facets of everyday life, including retail businesses, community life objects and domestic furnishings. In all there are 61,000 items in the museum's collections.

Among the most impressive elements of its collection are historic buildings, including a backyard chainshop, brass foundry, cast iron houses, locksmith's house, nailshop, pitt's cott and trap shop.

The backyard chainshop was originally situated at Claremont Street, in Cradley Heath, and features hearth and bellows for men and women. The brass foundry was also known as a tub shop and was built in Shaw Street, Walsall, in 1869.

It had space for two casters with a barrelling and polishing room next door.

Molten brass was poured into moulds and the methods are recreated to this day.

The cast iron houses, meanwhile, were built in Dudley in 1925 and were constructed from 600 panels of cast iron, bolted together and lined with asbestos. Only four were every made because they proved so costly.

Many of the costumed characters have an interesting tale to tell

A Day to Remember

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X31

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Monday to Saturday

Route Number	X31	X31	X31		X31		X31	X31	X31	X31
Day Code	HS				every 60 mins					
Cannock, Bus Station	0615	0715	0830	then at these mins past each hour	30	until	1430	1540	1640	1740
Cheslyn Hay, Memorial	0624	0724	0839		39		1439	1549	1649	1749
New Invention, Shopping Centre	0635	0735	0850		50		1450	1600	1700	1800
Short Heath, Shops	0637	0737	0852		52		1452	1602	1702	1802
Shepwell Green, Temple	0643	0743	0858		58		1458	1608	1708	1808
Wolverhampton Road West^	0646	0746	0901		01		1501	1611	1711	1811
Birmingham, Cars Lane	0725	0825	0925		25		1525	1635	1735	1835

Birmingham - M6 - Bentley - Shepwell Green - Short Heath - New Invention - Cheslyn Hay - Great Wyrley - Cannock X31

Monday to Saturday

Route Number	X31	X31	X31		X31		X31	X31	X31	X31	X31
Day Code	HS				every 60 mins						
Birmingham, Cars Lane	0726	0826	0926	then at these mins past each hour	26	until	1426	1526	1636	1736	1836
Wolverhampton Road West^	0748	0848	0948		48		1448	1553	1703	1803	1903
Shepwell Green, Temple	0751	0851	0951		51		1451	1557	1706	1806	1906
Short Heath, Shops	0757	0857	0957		57		1457	1603	1707	1807	1907
New Invention, Shopping Centre	0800	0900	1000		00		1500	1606	1710	1810	1910
Cheslyn Hay, Memorial	0811	0911	1011		11		1511	1619	1721	1821	1921
Cannock, Bus Station	0821	0921	1021		21		1521	1631	1731	1831	1931

Notes: HS - Not Saturday, ^ - Timing shown at Wolverhampton Road West / Queen Elizabeth Avenue

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ARRIVA

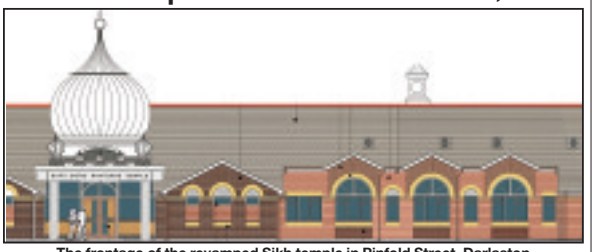
New look for temple to cost £750,000

THIS is how a Sikh temple in Walsall which is to be rebuilt to the tune of £750,000 will look when it is completed.

The existing Shri Guru Ravidass Temple, in Pinfold Street, Darlaston, is due to be demolished within weeks to make way for a larger building to cater for up to 400 worshippers.

The temple has a regular congregation of 40 and the centre will have more space for community events.

The new-look building was given the go-ahead by Walsall Council in 2009 and includes a car park for 16 vehicles, and the temple also has the use of some spaces at a nearby medical centre.



The frontage of the revamped Sikh temple in Pinfold Street, Darlaston

The existing temple was opened in 1983, but has become cramped and has a leaky roof.

Temple leaders say the new building will form the centrepiece of a multi-million pound revamp of Pinfold Street which has also seen the NHS complex built alongside new flats.

Architect John Bradbury said: "We have worked closely with the temple for four years. The development is very exciting and will benefit the whole community greatly."

Worshippers will meet in All Saints' Church, in Walsall Road, while their temple is rebuilt.

President Simon in his wife's footsteps

A HUSBAND follows in his wife's footsteps as he becomes the new leader of Willenhall Rotary Club.

Simon Sims was inducted as president of Willenhall Rotary Club to mark the start of the Rotary year.

This is not the first time a Sims has taken on the prestigious role.

Diagnosed

Mr Sims said: "My wife was president three years ago and it's the first time the club has had husband and wife presidents."

As president, Mr Sims has chosen Diabetics UK as this year's charity for the club to support.

He said: "I chose the charity as I am diabetic myself, having been diagnosed about two years ago.

"The remainder of the money we raise will go towards other local charities."

Mr Sims, who works as waste manager for Sandwell & West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust, has been a member of Rotary for seven years and says he finds it a rewarding experience.

"By being part of a club you feel like you're helping others and putting something back in the community," he said.

The Rotary induction ceremony took place on Friday, July 1.

The club is part of Rotary International, one of the largest charity organisations in the world with 1.2 million members across the globe.

Simon Sims of Rotary

Castings expands its base

A £5 MILLION expansion of a Walsall manufacturing firm which will create 145 jobs is under way.

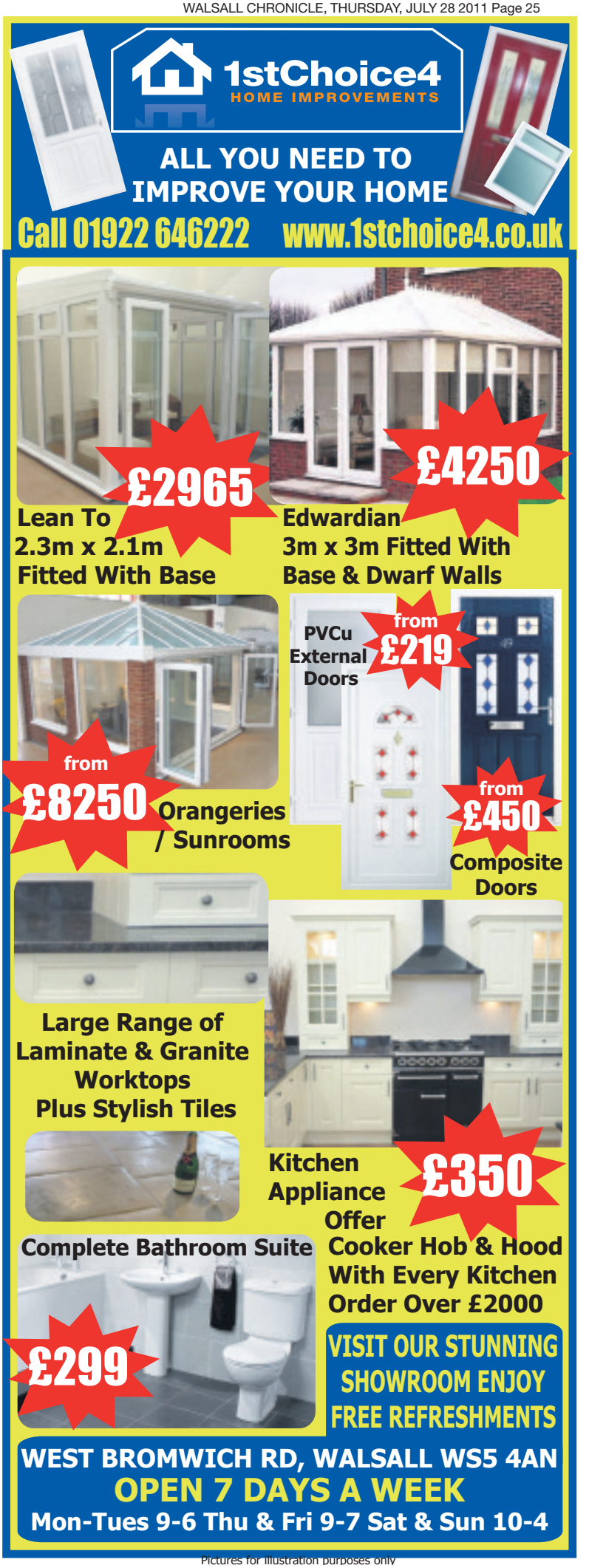
Castings Plc, in Lichfield Road, Brownhills, is expanding its warehouse in a scheme expected to be finished by the end of the year.

The project was given approval by Walsall Council last month and the warehouse will be used for storage and dispatch.

Automotive

It will allow the 150-year-old company to buy new machinery and employ machine operatives and skilled workers.

David Gawthorpe, chief executive of the firm, which makes iron castings for the truck and automotive industries, said: "Work has started and it is due to be complete by Christmas."



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Spot the difference Win £50

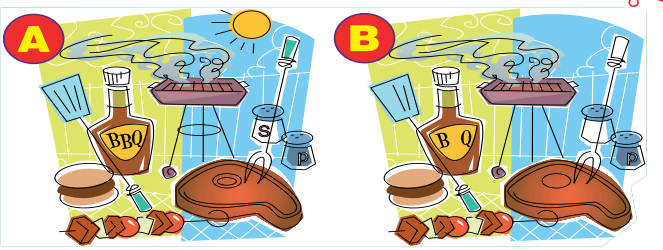
PART 2

To spend with one of the advertisers on this page **OR** on the Spot the Difference page in last week's Walsall Chronicle

Last week and this week (22nd and 29th July) the Walsall chronicle has published a "spot the difference competition" Simply find the 7 differences between the two pictures.

Then along with your Spot the Difference from last week attach and send BOTH competitions along with the filled in entry form below to the address shown. Please remember to fill in the section to choose which advertiser you wish to spend the money with should you be the lucky winner.

Please note the winner of the £50 is the entrant with both Spot the Differences correctly entered and both enclosed with your entry form. (there is only one £50 prize).



WALSALL CHRONICLE SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

(make sure you enclose the two entries from 22nd & 29th July)

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.....Post Code..... Tel Number.....

Advertiser you wish to spend your £50 with .....

Send your completed entry to Spot the Difference Win £50, Walsall Chronicle, Black lake, West Bromwich B70 0QB

RULES Entrants must be aged 18 or over, closing date for entries will be Friday 5th August 2011. The winner will be notified by post.The first correct entry opened after the closing date will receive the prize. There is no cash alternative to the prize. The prize will be issued in cheque form made payable to the advertiser as chosen by the winner. Once issued, the cheque cannot be altered and must be cashed within 2 months of receipt: Employees (or their immediate relatives) of the Express and Star may NOT enter. The Editors decision is final. The winner must be prepared to take part in any relevant publicity.

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Michaelmas daisies will provide plenty of flowering colour in the garden if they are established earlier in the year

How making deep cuts will keep the flowers blooming

THE fresh wispy shoots produced by Wisteria during the summer need to be shortened to keep the plant within bounds and to encourage good flowering.

Cut back each shoot to about five leaves to leave growth that is around 15-20cm (6-8in) long.

To encourage the formation of flowering spurs to grow along the main stems, these shoots should be cut back by a further half in December when the plant is dormant.

Regular watering and feeding of container plants and hanging baskets is a summer essential.

Miracle-Gro guarantees to grow bigger and better plants or you could use Liquid Tomorite to encourage a great deal more flowers.

TOP TIP: Summer rain that encourages weeds to emerge on drives, paths and between slabs will need treatment before they grow into an eyesore. An application of Pathclear Gun! Weedkiller will clear existing weeds and leave a residual layer that prevents the growth of seedlings for months

Whatever plant food you choose, feed once every 10 days or so inbetween waterings.

You may find that putting drip trays under pots will help to thoroughly water potted plants. These will catch any excess water that will be absorbed back into the compost to ensure it is totally wet.

Watch out for pests on potted plants such as petunia, pansies and verbena. Many are prone to attack from aphids but can be protected from existing pests and future attack with a quick spray of BugClear Ultra Gun!

It's time to think about growing plants on to provide colour in pots and hanging baskets during autumn and winter.

It's worth planting up hanging baskets early so the plants can get well established and fill out before they go on display.

For long-lasting interest use a mixture of flowering and foliage plants.

Dwarf Michaelmas daisies, winter pansies and polyanthus will supply the flowering colour and ornamental cabbage, grey-leaved helichrysum or variegated ivy will provide interesting leaves.

Ants and wasps are late summer pests that can ruin the pleasure offered by your patio. Dust the runs and nest entrances of ants with Ant Stop! Granules to get them under control. They will take the granules back to the nest so that the whole colony is eventually wiped out.

Indoors, especially in kitchens, dusts are unsightly, but a Home Defence Ant Stop! Bait Station can be placed discretely where the ants are running.

This contains a bait that is effective for up to three months. The creepy crawlies take the bait back to the nest in the same way to kill the whole colony.

● **All words and pictures from The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company.**

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Holiday reading for the pre-teens

Adventure Island 1: The Mystery of the Whistling Caves – Helen Moss (Orion Children's Books, paperback, £4.99)

THE spirit of Enid Blyton's The Famous Five and The Secret Seven lives on in this, the first of a new series of adventures featuring Scott, Jack, Emily and her dog Drift.

A summer trip to Cornwall's Whistling Caves poses the question why has the cavern fallen silent. The old legend that such an occurrence will place the nearby castle in peril seems to come true when a priceless ancient shield is stolen from the museum.

But don't worry, our young investigators are on the case, and they soon will be again in The Mystery of the Midnight Ghost.

It's great to have this Worcestershire-raised author creating a new bunch of pesky kids to stop wrong-doers in their tracks, and they are more savvy than Blyton's young heroes. After all, they live in the age of pop music, computer games, celebrities and theme parks. But, not so deep down, they are still made of the same jolly good stuff. Spiffing, ahem, I mean, wicked.

The Smurfs: Movie Novelization – Stacia Deutsch and Rhody Cohon (Simon and Schuster, paperback, £4.99)

The Smurfs are back in a big way. The popular little blue and white elf-like creatures were created by Belgian cartoonist Peyo and called by French-speakers, Les Schtroumpfs, in the 1950s. But the British and Americans opted for their easier-on-the-tongue Dutch name, The Smurfs.

Parents may remember them fondly from their first wave of animated TV success in the 1980s but now they are getting the blockbuster Hollywood treatment in a new computer-animated movie on which this book is based, telling how an evil wizard sends the Smurfs to modern day New York (has anyone seen Enchanted?!). With Smurf Village proving a very popular game app, it looks like blue is the colour again and loads more Smurfchendise is on the way.

Moshi Monsters: Buster's Lost Moshlings – A Search-and-Find Book (Sunbird, paperback, £6.99)

The Smurfs have got new rivals, virtual pets from a website called Moshi Monsters. The online world of colourful creatures, created by London-based Mind Candy, is massively popular with the primary school age group. Moshi mania, a blend of gaming and social networking, looks set to surpass Club Penguin and could even challenge the Disney empire in children's affections.

The Moshlings Collector's Guide proved a hit and now comes Lost Moshlings, which blends the world of Moshi Monsters with the Where's Wally concept of trying to find them from a cast of thousands on various large scale pictures. This could keep Moshi devotees quiet and busy for long periods, so may be perfect for that long holiday drive?

The Wimpy Kid Do-It-Yourself Book – Jeff Kinney (Puffin, paperback, £6.99)

The Diary of a Wimpy Kid became a massive hit, leading to a movie and many more books about Kinney's unlucky character Greg. But this book purporting to be your own DIY book has, alongside cartoons, illustrations and some quizzes, lots of blank or lined pages where children can create their own cartoon or story. Hmm. However popular the character, I can't help thinking youngsters will be a little disappointed. It's great to encourage creativity but parents could buy a notebook or sketch pad for a fraction of the price to do that. Kinney doesn't have to leave massive gaps in his book and then charge the same price as for a proper novel.

Ravenwood – Andrew Peters (Chicken House, paperback, £6.99)

Shropshire author Peters has created a wonderful new tree-top world with the forest island of Arborium, a well-imagined mile high tree-house kingdom, and a likeable character in young plumber's mate Ark. When he overhears a plot to rob his homeland of wood to supply resources for the steel and glass superpower Maw (yup, it's a green eco-parable), Ark finds himself plunged into the dark roots of Ravenwood on a desperate mission to save his woodland home and people. Peters should carve himself a niche in the children's fantasy genre with this cracking yet quite chunky adventure of nearly 400 pages.

The Emerald Atlas – John Stephens (Doubleday, hardback, £12.99)

Three siblings find out the magic is real, old books can cause lots of trouble and only they can save the world in this fantasy epic which weaves together elements akin to Pullman's His Dark Materials books, Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events and JK Rowling's saga about a certain boy wizard. This isn't quite in that league but an enjoyable read none the less.

The Dragon Whisperer – Lucinda Hare (Corgi, paperback, £5.99)

Dragons are in (have they ever been out?), thanks to the final Potter epic, TV's Merlin and a recent animated movie. This is a soaring debut with the hero aiming to ride a dragon into battle against the hobgoblins. This is a solid fantasy in the classic tradition, and a good way to pave the way for The Hobbit.

Mio's Kingdom – Astrid Lindgren (Oxford University Press, paperback, £6.99)

Originally published in Swedish in 1954 by the author most famous for Pippi Longstocking. This story about a sad boy who escapes into a Narnia-like fantasy world is quite poignant. It is old fashioned but does have a dreamy quality.

The Day of the Monster Pigeons; The Day of the Camera Carnage – Steve Cole (Oxford University Press, paperbacks, £5.99)

Both part of the Freekham High School series, here are more weirdly amusing goings-on at a school that really would keep Ofsted busy. Fun for those ready to move on from, or supplement, their Horrid Henry reading. **LB**

OMG! It's text for the tweens

Buttercup Mash – Joanna Nadin (Oxford University Press, paperback, £6.99)

OMG. MY artist mother has gate-crashed my 14th birthday party with a homeless man called Fergal. And, like, my best friend Imogen, a complete drama queen, is refusing to speak to me because it is so totally unfair that all she got was Colin the Clown when she was seven and he wasn't half as drunk.

Enter the world of Buttercup Jones, precocious early teen who delivers a running commentary on her life via a diary which reads like an online blog. In fact, it is, for her online analyst. She has issues and they take a turn for a worse when she joins the school glee club with the potential for terminal embarrassment singing rock ballads like a demented karaoke addict.

It's funny and the English author Joanna Nadin has had other successful books for tweens (the 11 to 14 set) that have seen her shortlisted for the apparently coveted title "Queen of Teen". But some of the references sound rather unconvincing, I mean would Buttercup really know who Duke Ellington is when many kids her age don't know who Mick Jagger and David Bowie are?

Cherry Crush – Cathy Cassidy (Puffin, paperback, £6.99)

The first in the Chocolate Box Girls series now out in paperback. Cassidy has a big following enhanced by the stories of sassy girls. Trouble is brewing when new girl in town Cherry falls for dishy Shay Fletcher, only to find out the object of her desire is her new stepsister Honey's boyfriend. Ouch.

Timeless classics still captivate

The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgson Burnett (Oxford World's Classics, paperback, £6.99)

This year is the centenary of this children's classic, which has been dubbed fairly accurately as "the children's Jane Eyre". The story about a spoilt girl who, after her unloving parents die in a cholera outbreak, is sent from colonial India to her uncle's gloomy mansion on the bleak Yorkshire moors has lots of Gothic flavours, especially the spooky sobbing in the night that alerts her that all is not as it seems.

Yet, despite several characters being affected by the loss of loved ones, this turns into quite an upbeat novel with its modern views on health, nature, empire, childhood and gender. It remains a rewarding read.

Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson (Oxford World's Classics, paperback, £5.99)

Forget Pirates of the Caribbean, this is the definitive rip-roaring pirate tale. The story of young Jim Hawkins, who falls under the influence of the charismatic but dangerous Long John Silver, and the hunt for buried treasure is still gripping.

All the ingredients are here for a thrilling read – greed, murder, treachery. Written in 1883, it remains one of the all-time great adventures.

Ballet Shoes – Noel Streatfield (Puffin, paperback, £6.99)

A classic celebrates its 75th anniversary with an endorsement from Jacqueline Wilson as one her all-time favourites. An age of house maids and exiles from the Russian Revolution may seem remote but this tale of three ambitious adopted siblings who pursue their stage-struck ambitions despite family money troubles can still captivate.

Tales of Ancient Egypt – Roger Lancelyn Green (Puffin Classics, paperback, £6.99)

Rick Riordan's children's novels featuring gods and monsters from Greek, Roman and Egyptian mythologies has made many youngsters interested in the legends of the ancient world. First published in the late 1960s, Green introduced many children to the great myths and can fascinate a new generation. His Egyptian tales include the creation myth of Amen-Ra, Isis searching the waters for her dead husband Osiris, the Bennu Bird and Book of Thoth, even the original version of Cinderella!

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snappers claim to frame

Photos this week from Ruth Clay, of Walsall Wood, Roger Jones, of Walsall, and Alex Bailey, of Pelsall

A wild iris at Aldridge marina, from Ruth Clay

Mother and foal in a field opposite the former Goscote Hospital, from Alex Bailey

A moorhen on Rushall Canal, from Roger Jones

Canal boat moored near Junction Bridge, Pelsall, from Alex Bailey

Snaps of life in the borough

Are you a snazzy snapper, a lord of the lens or diva of the digital print? Think you can do better than these pictures, if you can why not share your snaps of the borough?

There is no limit on the age or the subject all we ask is that they be as sharp and clear as possible and must be of reasonable quality for publication and of course feature some area or aspect of Walsall and its life.

Send them in with your, name, address and contact number and a brief description of what the picture shows.

Also we would like to hear about any interesting tales or stories attached to the photograph. Send them in either as a hard copy or electronically and we will do the rest. So get those cameras snapping, dig out those dusty old albums and send them to: **Snappers Claim to Frame, Walsall Chronicle, Queen Street, Wolverhampton. WV1 1ES or email them to walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk.**

The beauty of Pelsall's Wood Common, from Alex Bailey

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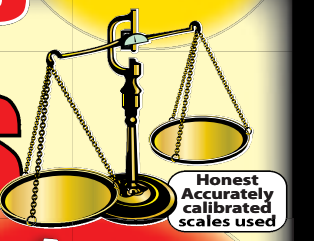

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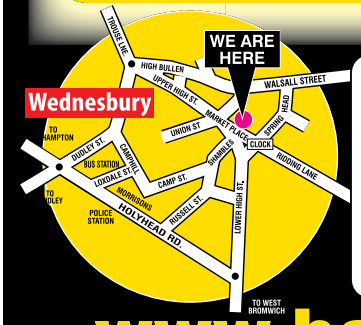

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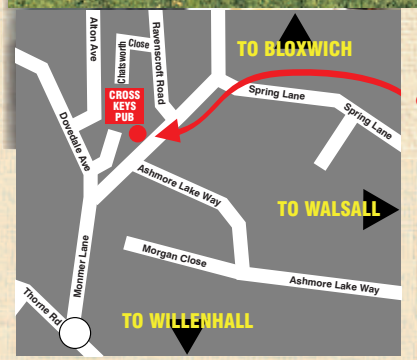

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Full on festival fever is on the way for summer

Above: Barbados-born singing star Rihanna, let's hope she will not be needing her Umbrella at V

Right: Latin expert Quantic, alias former Bewdley resident Will Holland is at The Big Chill

GLASTONBURY is gone, mired by mud like Latitude and several other top rock festivals but things are just starting to hot up in the Midlands.

In the weeks to come we have the dance version of Glasters, Godskitchen's Global Gathering, in Warwickshire; The Big Chill in the grounds of Eastnor Castle in Herefordshire; and the really big one, the V Festival at Weston Park, on the Staffs-Shropshire border.

So the region's festival season kicks off tomorrow (Friday, July 29) to Sunday, July 31, with Godskitchen's Global Gathering. One of the UK's biggest dance festivals, returns to Stratford with headliners Annie Mac, Eric Prydz and Pendulum among others. Tickets range from £62.60 for a day and £109 for the weekend. See www.globalgathering.com for details.

Hot on the heels of that event is The Big Chill weekend from August 4 to 7, bringing Kanye West, Jessie J and Chemical Brothers to the parkland near Ledbury for £120 a pop. Also on the bill is the Black Country's own rock god Robert Plant with his Band of Joy on the Sunday (August 7) which is the same day that reunited Handsworth reggae band Steel Pulse play the festival.

Megastars

It's August 20 and 21 fans will most long for when the V Festival will once again take over Staffordshire's Weston Park, giving everyone from rising stars Wolf Gang, surprise comeback popsters Hanson and megastars Eminem, Rihanna, and Arctic Monkeys a place to play alongside Kaiser Chiefs, Manic Street Preachers, The Script, Dizzee Rascal, Jessie J, Pendulum and the reformed Primal Scream. V also has the biggest pure pop contingent with the likes of The Saturdays, Olly Murs, Eliza Doolittle and The Wanted on the weekend bill. Go online to www.vfestival.com for details.

One of The Big Chill acts will be warming up with a gig at Birmingham's Hare and Hounds pub venue which promises a scorching July and August of summer sounds with lots of tropical beats including plenty of funk, reggae and soul.

Former Worcestershire DJ Will Holland, from Bewdley, who is now based in South America brings his Combo Barbaro under his alias of Quantic to the Kings Heath venue on August 5. The group's recent album Transition in Tradition is a multicultural patchwork of cumbia, deep funk, tropical dub and many styles between. In 2007 Holland moved to Cali, Colombia's third largest city, to pursue his passion for Latin music.

Also lined up for the pub venue are reggae collective The Easy All-Stars, best known for their reggae versions of albums by Pink Floyd and The Beatles; Massive Attack co-founder and trip-hop pioneer Daddy G with Birmingham's rising Alternative Dubstep Orchestra; Walsall's Goldie; and punk pioneers The Rezillos, and favourite regular Big Chill DJ Mr Scruff. For full istings see the venue's website at http://hareandhoundskingsheath.co.uk/

Above: from the multi-million selling debut Employment back in 2005 through to the recent The Future Is Medieval, Kaiser Chiefs have been a top UK band and they follow their Glastonbury performance with a gig at the V Festival; Right: Chemical Brothers will be bringing those block rocking beats to The Big Chill, a festival which also features (left) rock legend Robert Plant with his Band of Joy

Saturday TV

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BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. 11.30 The Good Cook. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 12.10 Formula 1: The Hungarian Grand Prix Qualifying. Live coverage from Budapest (Start-time 1.00pm). 2.30 Swimming. 4.30 Live Golf: The Women's British Open. The third day from Carnoustie. 5.40 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 5.55 Total Wipeout. (R)

6.50 Tonight's the Night. Glee star Matthew Morrison, The One Show's Matt Baker, pop singer Sophie Ellis-Bextor and the cast of Billy Elliot The Musical help make dreams come true. Hosted by John Barrowman.

7.50 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Quiz show, including the all-important numbers.

8.30 Casualty. Adam's medical misdemeanours come back to haunt him when paedophile Matthew Haddon is admitted with liver failure, and Kirsty makes a drastic decision about her future.

9.10 John Bishop's Britain. New series. Entertainment show with guest Andrew Flintoff.

9.40 BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update.

10.00 FILM: King Arthur. (2004) Historical adventure, starring Clive Owen.

11.55 FILM: Amityville II: The Possession. (1982) Horror prequel, starring Burt Young; Weatherview.

1.35 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 10.00 Lifeline. (R) 10.10 Coast. (R) 11.10 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 12.00 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 12.45 Film: Sodom and Gomorrah. (1962) Biblical drama, starring Stewart Granger, Pier Angeli, Stanley Baker and Rossana Podesta. 3.10 Flog It! (R) 4.00 Live Golf: The Women's British Open. The third day from Carnoustie.

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6.00 Live Athletics. The World Trials and UK Championships.

7.30 Dad's Army. The platoon has a steam engine problem. (R)

8.00 The Impressionists – Painting and Revolution. The people depicted by the movement's artists.

9.00 BBC Proms 2011. Andris Nelsons conducts the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in two works by Richard Strauss, Walton's Violin Concerto with soloist Midori, and Prokofiev's Alexander Nevsky.

11.20 The Rob Brydon Show. With Bill Bailey, Beverley Knight and Celia Pacquola. (R)

11.50 TOTP2: 80s Special. Memorable performances from the 1980s. (R)

12.50 Film: Tapeheads. (1988) Comedy with Tim Robbins. 2.20 Film: Summer. (2007) British drama, starring Robert Carlyle.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. 7.25 CITV. 9.25 Ten Mile Menu. (R) 9.55 Coronation Street. 11.05 This Morning Saturday. 12.55 ITV News; Weather. 1.05 Film: Agatha Christie's Murder Is Easy. (1982) Murder mystery, with Bill Bixby. 2.55 Film: Columbo: A Stitch in Crime. (1973) Crime drama, with Peter Falk. 4.45 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 – Behind the Magic. (R) 5.45 Regional Programmes. 5.55 ITV News; Weather. 6.10 Film: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban. (2004) Fantasy adventure, starring Daniel Radcliffe.

8.45 Odd One In. Coronation Street and Emmerdale teams compete.

9.30 Penn & Teller: Fool Us. Another four acts, including a card-trick champion and a Cuban magician now living in Kent, try to outwit the illusionists with mind-boggling tricks.

10.30 The Marriage Ref. With Denise Van Outen, Sarah Millican and Micky Flanagan. Last in the series.

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11.30 ITV News; Weather.

11.45 FILM: The Specialist. (1994) Action thriller, starring Sylvester Stallone and Sharon Stone.

4.15 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 4.45 In Plain Sight. 5.35 ITV Nightscreen. 5.50 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

6.00 The Hoobs. (R) 6.25 The Film Show. (R) 7.00 British Formula 3 International Series. 7.55 The Grid. 8.25 The Morning Line. 9.25 T4: Friends. (R) 9.55 T4: Hollyoaks Music Show. 10.25 T4: Smallville. (R) 11.20 T4: Friends. (R) 11.50 T4: Pop Up Pop Quiz. 12.10 T4: Dirty Sexy Things. 1.15 The TV Book Club. 1.45 Channel 4 Presents – Danielle Brown 2012. (R) 1.55 Channel 4 Racing. 5.05 Channel 4 Presents – David Smith 2012. (R) 5.15 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 5.45 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 6.15 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 6.45 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R)

7.15 Channel 4 News.

7.25 [illegible]

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8.15 FILM: Crocodile Dundee II. (1988) Comedy, starring Paul Hogan.

9.00 Camelot. Harwel lays siege to Arthur's outpost at Bardon Pass.

10.00 FILM: Cloverfield. (2008) Thriller, starring Michael Stahl-David, Lizzy Caplan, Jessica Lucas and TJ Miller.

11.50 FILM: Underworld: Evolution. (2006) Horror fantasy sequel, starring Kate Beckinsale and Scott Speedman.

1.45 Bump, Boobs and Botox. (R) 2.40 24 Hours in A&E. (R) 3.35 Embarrassing Bodies: Teen Special. (R) 4.30 Hill Street Blues. (R) 5.40 Born to Be Different. (R)

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Inside Hollywood. (R) 10.45 Mexican Food Made Simple. (R) 11.15 Film: Cheyenne Autumn. (1964) John Ford's Western, with Richard Widmark. 2.00 Film: Sugarfoot. (1951) Western, starring Randolph Scott. 3.45 Film: War Arrow. (1954) Western, starring Jeff Chandler. 5.30 Film: Blue Thunder. (1983) Action adventure, starring Roy Scheider.

7.30 Cricket. England v India. With analysis by Geoffrey Boycott, Michael Vaughan and Simon Hughes.

7.55 5 News Weekend.

8.00 NCIS. The team suspects a desperate Marine may have faked his own death with the help of a friend and blown up an ambulance in a botched attempt to cover all traces of the subterfuge. (R)

9.00 CSI: Miami. A golf instructor is found guilty of murder, but the team suspects his attorney actually helped get him convicted to protect a more powerful client. (R)

10.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. The detectives investigate the world of ultimate fighting.

10.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A respected philanthropist is attacked in her home. (R)

11.55 Inside Hollywood. Magazine show. (R)

12.05 SuperCasino. 3.55 The Family Recipe. (R) 4.10 The FBI Files. (R) 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

Digital

ITV2

6.50 Film: Free Willy (1993) A boy befriends a captive killer whale, but when he learns the animal is to be killed, he makes plans to release it into the ocean. Drama, with Jason James Richter and Lori Petty. Including FYI Daily. 9.00 Film: The Mummy (1999) A soldier of fortune battles the vengeful spirit of an ancient Egyptian high priest with supernatural powers. Action adventure, with Brendan Fraser, Rachel Weisz and Arnold Vosloo. Including FYI Daily. 11.25 Film: Hannibal (2001)

ITV3

2.00 Film: Carry On Cowboy (1965) 4.00 Agatha Christie's Marple 6.05 Film: Columbo: Ashes to Ashes (1998) 8.00 Doc Martin 9.00 A Touch of Frost 11.55 Wycliffe

ITV4

1.00 Live Darts. The European Championship. 5.00 Freddie Flintoff Versus the World 6.00 Minder. Arthur suffers depression. 7.00 Live Darts. The session on day three of the European Championship. 11.00 Film: Red Heat (1988)

BBC THREE

7.00 Top Gear 8.00 Don't Tell the Bride 9.00 Great Movie Mistakes 2: The Sequel 11.00 Family Guy 11.25 American Dad

BBC FOUR

7.00 The Blue Planet 8.00 If Walls Could Talk: The History of the Home 9.00 Wallander 10.30 The Great Outdoors 11.00 The Great British Outdoors

E4

2.25 Hollyoaks 5.00 Friends 6.00 One Tree Hill 7.00 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 How I Met Your Mother 9.00 Friends 10.00 Film: There's Something About Mary (1998)

FILM4

3.20 The War of the Worlds (1953) 5.00 Dr Dolittle (1998) 6.50 Ever After: A Cinderella Story (1998) 9.00 The Bank Job (2008) 11.10 Carrie (1976)

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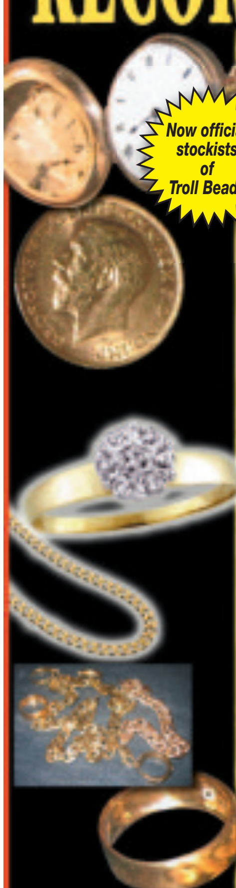

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Sunday TV

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BBC1

[illegible] Breakfast. [illegible] The Andrew Marr Show. [illegible] Sunday Morning Live. [illegible] Country Tracks; Weather for the Week Ahead. [illegible] BBC News. [illegible] Formula 1: The Hungarian Grand Prix Live. Coverage from the Hungaroring near Budapest (Start-time 1.00pm). [illegible] My Family. (R) [illegible] Escape to the Country. [illegible] Songs of Praise. [illegible] Horrible Histories with Stephen Fry

[illegible] **BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**
[illegible] **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce and the team return to the Tower Ballroom in Blackpool, where items valued include a pair of duelling pistols and the original teddy from Watch with Mother. (R)
[illegible] **Countryfile.** John Craven investigates the history of the Llyn Peninsula in North Wales, and Helen Skelton visits the nearby Bardsey Island – said to be the burial place of 20,000 saints.
[illegible] **Inspector George Gently.** The detectives investigate the death of a left-wing academic following a nuclear disarmament rally – and find themselves in the midst of a wave of social and sexual rebellion. (R)
[illegible] **BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**
[illegible] **Sugartown.** Jason and his friends rally round to keep the factory open.
[illegible] **Regional Programmes.**

[illegible] Sign Zone: The Street That Cut Everything. (R) [illegible] Holby City. (R) [illegible] Antiques Road Trip. (R) [illegible] BBC News.

BBC2

[illegible] CBeebies. [illegible] CBBC. [illegible] Something for the Weekend. [illegible] EastEnders Omnibus. [illegible] Live Golf: The Women's British Open. The fourth and final day from Carnoustie. [illegible] Swimming.

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[illegible] **Live Athletics.** The World Trials and UK Championships.
[illegible] **Top Gear.** Jeremy Clarkson and James May drive to the seaside in electric cars by Nissan and Peugeot and Richard Hammond meets a rally team made up of amputees. Last in the series.
[illegible] **Dragons' Den.** New series. Haulage industry expert Hilary Devey joins the Dragons to evaluate pitches including a novel massage service, a unique use for a plastic egg and an explosive circus act.
[illegible] **Grumpy Guide to Food.** Famous faces share their least-favourite things about modern cuisine.
[illegible] **FILM: What Just Happened?** (2007) Premiere. Comedy drama, starring Robert De Niro and Catherine Keener.

[illegible] Film: Trees Lounge. (1996) Black comedy, starring Steve Buscemi. [illegible] BBC News. [illegible] The Super League Show. [illegible] Close.

ITV1

[illegible] CITV: Mini CITV. [illegible] CITV. [illegible] May the Best House Win. (R) [illegible] Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) [illegible] 60 Minute Makeover. (R) [illegible] This Morning: Sunday. [illegible] Dinner Date. (R) [illegible] ITV News; Weather. [illegible] Survival: Tales from the Wild. [illegible] Inspector Morse. (R) [illegible] Midsomer Murders. (R)

[illegible] **Regional Programmes.**
[illegible] **ITV News; Weather.**
[illegible] **The Royal.** Last-ever episode. Dr Ormerod is embroiled in a family's problems. Last in the series.
[illegible] **Born to Shine.** Dublin-born comedian Jason Byrne learns Irish dancing, TV presenter Joe Swash beatboxes and actress Tracy-Ann Oberman sings and plays the guitar. Natasha Kaplinsky hosts.
[illegible] **Law & Order: UK.** Brooks and Devlin try to hunt down two killers who have gone on a shooting rampage through the streets of London.
[illegible] **ITV News at Ten; Weather.**

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[illegible] **FILM: The Kingdom.** (2007) Premiere. Thriller, starring Jamie Foxx and Jennifer Garner.

[illegible] The Zone; ITV News Headlines. [illegible] Motorsport UK. [illegible] ITV Nightscreen. [illegible] ITV Morning News.

Channel 4

[illegible] The Treacle People. (R) [illegible] The Hoobs. (R) [illegible] The Hoobs. (R) [illegible] Intelligent Sport UK Challenge. A race across Exmoor National Park. [illegible] World Touring Car Championship. (R) [illegible] Channel 4 Presents – Stephen Miller 2012. (R) [illegible] T4: Friends. (R) [illegible] T4: Friends. (R) [illegible] T4: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2 – T4 Premiere Special. (R) [illegible] T4: Hollyoaks. [illegible] T4: Ibiza Rocks. [illegible] T4: T4 on the Beach: Buried Treasures. [illegible] T4: The Simpsons. (R) [illegible] T4: The Simpsons. (R) [illegible] Undercover Boss. (R) [illegible] Help! My House Is Falling Down. (R) [illegible] Channel 4 Presents – Ellie Simmonds 2012. (R) [illegible] Film: The Spiderwick Chronicles. (2008)

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[illegible] **Channel 4 News.**
[illegible] **4thought.**
[illegible] **A Place in the Sun: Home or Away.**
[illegible] **Holiday Hijack.** How tourism is damaging the environment in the Maldives.
[illegible] **FILM: Juno.** (2007) Comedy, starring Ellen Page, Michael Cera, Jennifer Garner and Jason Bateman.
[illegible] **FILM: Under Siege.** (1992) Action adventure, starring Steven Seagal and Tommy Lee Jones.

[illegible] Stand Up for the Week. (R) [illegible] Film: The Pawnbroker. (1965) Drama, starring Rod Steiger. [illegible] The Crucified Soldier. (R) [illegible] Hill Street Blues. (R) [illegible] One Tree Hill. (R)

Channel 5

[illegible] Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. [illegible] Roary the Racing Car. (R) [illegible] Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) [illegible] Fireman Sam. (R) [illegible] Miss Spider's Sunny Patch Friends. (R) [illegible] Elmo's World. (R) [illegible] Rhubarb and Custard Too. (R) [illegible] The Save-Ums! (R) [illegible] Noddy in Toyland. (R) [illegible] Hana's Helpline. (R) [illegible] Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) [illegible] Milkshake! Show Songs. (R) [illegible] Little Princess. (R) [illegible] The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) [illegible] Mist: Sheepdog Tales. (R) [illegible] Rupert Bear. (R) [illegible] Olivia. (R) [illegible] The Mr Men Show. (R) [illegible] Milkshake! Monkey. (R) [illegible] The Milkshake! Show. (R) [illegible] How Do They Do It? (R) [illegible] Police Interceptors. (R) [illegible] One Year To Go: Building Stratford. The construction of the 2012 Olympic Park. (R) [illegible] Film: Beyond the Poseidon Adventure. (1979) Disaster movie sequel, starring Michael Caine and Telly Savalas. [illegible] Film: The Last Starfighter. (1984) Sci-fi adventure, starring Lance Guest. [illegible] Film: The Karate Kid Part II. (1986) Martial arts sequel, starring Ralph Macchio and Pat Morita.

[illegible] **5 News.**
[illegible] **Cricket.** England v India.
[illegible] **New Cowboy Builders.** (R)
[illegible] **FILM: XXX.** (2002) Action adventure, starring Vin Diesel.
[illegible] **FILM: Linewatch.** (2008) Premiere. Crime drama, starring Cuba Gooding Jr and Sharon Leal.

[illegible] SuperCasino. [illegible] The Family Recipe. (R) [illegible] Great Artists. (R) [illegible] Divine Designs. (R) [illegible] Hana's Helpline. (R) [illegible] The Milkshake! Show. (R) [illegible] Thomas & Friends. (R) [illegible] Roary the Racing Car. (R)

Digital

ITV2
[illegible] America's Got Talent. [illegible] The Planet's Funniest Animals. [illegible] 71 Degrees North. [illegible] Film: The Mummy Returns. (2001) [illegible] Peter Andre: Here 2 Help. The singer and his team visit Southampton to meet 16-year-old Jodie Lavers, who has asked for his help in bringing her family closer together in the wake of her father's death. [illegible] Film: Ocean's Thirteen. (2007) Comedy crime caper sequel, with George Clooney.

ITV3
2.15 Goodbye Mr Chips. 4.15 Film: Carry On Jack. (1963) [illegible] Film: Mr Bean's Holiday. (2007) 7.55 The Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes. [illegible] Film: Murder in the First. (1995) [illegible] Film: Amazing Grace. (2006)

ITV4
[illegible] Live Darts. The European Championship quarter-finals. [illegible] Minder. [illegible] Tommy Cooper. [illegible] Live Darts. The European Championship semi-finals and final. [illegible] Film: First Blood. (1982)

BBC THREE
[illegible] Formula 1: The Hungarian Grand Prix Highlights. [illegible] The World's Strictest Parents. [illegible] White Van Man. [illegible] Family Guy. [illegible] American Dad. [illegible] World's Craziest Fools.

BBC FOUR
[illegible] Sahara with Michael Palin. [illegible] Film: The Prince and the Showgirl. (1957) [illegible] Film: Let's Talk about the Rain. (2008) 11.05 The Rattigan Enigma by Benedict Cumberbatch.

E4
3.55 Film: Romancing the Stone. (1984) [illegible] Friends. [illegible] Smallville. [illegible] Friends. [illegible] Rude Tube: Heroes and Villains. [illegible] Film: Scary Movie. (2000) 11.35 The Big Bang Theory.

FILM4
[illegible] D-Day, the Sixth of June. (1956) [illegible] Kiki's Delivery Service. (1989) 7.15 California Man. (1992) [illegible] Mission: Impossible III. (2006) [illegible] This Boy's Life. (1993)

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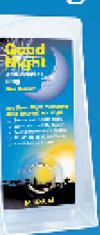

the pulse

Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. (R) 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cowboy Trap. (R) 11.45 Saints and Scroungers; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Fake Britain; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 Dying for a Drink – Panorama. 9.00 New Tricks. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 A Question of Sport. 11.05 The Celebrity Apprentice USA; Weatherview. 12.45 Sign Zone: A History of Celtic Britain. (R) 1.45 Animal 24:7. (R) 2.20 An Island Parish. (R) 2.50 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 3.35 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Film: Whistle Down the Wind. (1961) Drama, starring Alan Bates and Hayley Mills. 1.15 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 2.00 Wanted Down Under. (R) 3.00 Weakest Link. (R) 3.45 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Celebrity Eggheads. (R) 7.00 Victorian Pharmacy. 7.30 Wonderland. 8.00 University Challenge. 8.30 Antiques Master. 9.00 My Life as a Turkey: Natural World Special. 10.00 Mock the Week. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Torchwood: Miracle Day. (R) 12.15 The Tudors. (R) 1.05 BBC News. 3.00 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Auction Party. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. (R) 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Countrywise Kitchen. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Show Me the Funny. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Out of Sight. (1998) Romantic crime drama, with George Clooney. 12.45 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.50 Nightwatch with Steve Scott. (R) 3.40 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Hoobs. (R) 6.25 Freshly Squeezed. 6.50 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.20 According to Jim. 7.45 T4: Friends. (R) 8.15 T4: Friends. (R) 8.45 T4: 90210. 9.40 T4: N-Dubz' Podcast from T4 On the Beach. 9.55 T4: Made in Chelsea. 11.00 T4: Friends. (R) 11.30 T4: Friends. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 1.05 Film: Gentlemen Prefer Blondes. (1953) Musical comedy, starring Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell. 2.55 Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 3.25 Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 4.00 Deal or No Deal: Hall of Fame. (R) 5.00 Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 5.30 Celebrity Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Channel 4 Presents – Manish Sehmi 2012. 8.00 The Secret Life of Buildings. 9.00 Embarrassing Fat Bodies – Back to the Clinic. 10.00 Sirens. 11.05 Coming Up: Food. 11.35 4thoughts.tv. (R) 11.40 Chris Moyles' Quiz Night. (R) 12.30 Music on 4: Exit Festival. 1.15 Film: Infernal Affairs 3. (2003) 3.15 Hill Street Blues. (R) 4.05 One Tree Hill. (R) 4.55 Cookery School. (R) 5.50 The Treacle People. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 The Wright Stuff Extra with Gabby Logan. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 1.15 Monkey Life. (R) 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) 3.20 Film: McBride: Fallen Idol. (2005) Mystery, starring John Larroquette. 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Meerkat Manor. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 6.55 5 News at 7. 7.00 Cricket; 5 News Update. 8.00 Police Interceptors; 5 News at 9. 9.00 Film: The Ninth Gate. (1999) 11.45 Film: Frankenstein. (2004) 1.25 SuperCasino. 4.05 The Family Recipe. (R) 4.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 4.55 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

Tuesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. (R) 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cowboy Trap. (R) 11.45 Saints and Scroungers; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. (R) 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Holby City. 9.00 DIY SOS: The Big Build. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather; National Lottery Update. 10.35 An Abuse of Trust. 11.05 Imagine: Being a Concert Pianist; Weatherview. 12.10 Sign Zone: Coast. (R) 1.10 Fake Britain. (R) 1.55 Saints and Scroungers. (R) 2.25 An Island Parish. (R) 2.55 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 3.40 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Film: Dead Reckoning. (1947) Film noir murder mystery, starring Humphrey Bogart. 1.15 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 2.00 Wanted Down Under. (R) 3.00 Weakest Link. (R) 3.45 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Celebrity Eggheads. (R) 7.00 Dragons' Den. (R) 8.00 Restoration Home. 9.00 The Hour. 10.00 Twenty Twelve. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Town with Nicholas Crane. (R) 12.20 The Tudors. (R) 1.10 BBC News. 3.40 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Auction Party. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. (R) 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Wildlife Patrol. 8.00 Cops with Cameras. (R) 9.00 Homes from Hell. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Celebrity Juice: Up the Duff Special. 11.20 iTunes Festival Highlights 2011. 12.15 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.20 Crossing Jordan. 3.05 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Hoobs. (R) 6.25 Freshly Squeezed. 6.50 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.20 According to Jim. 7.45 T4: Friends. (R) 8.15 T4: Friends. (R) 8.45 T4: 90210. 9.40 T4: Alexis Jordan's Podcast from T4 on the Beach. 10.00 T4: Made in Chelsea. 11.00 T4: Friends. (R) 11.30 T4: Friends. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 1.05 River Cottage Bites. (R) 1.15 Film: Carry On Abroad. (1972) Comedy, starring Sid James. 2.55 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 3.25 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 4.00 Deal or No Deal: Hall of Fame. (R) 5.00 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 5.30 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Channel 4 Presents – Hannah Cockroft 2012. A friend of the Paralympic athlete provides an insight into her character. 8.00 The Sex Education Show. 9.00 Undercover Boss. 10.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. 11.05 4thoughts.tv. (R) 11.10 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) 12.15 European Poker Tour. 1.10 Beach Volleyball. 2.05 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 2.30 FIM Superbike World Championship. 3.00 The Grid. (R) 3.30 Intelligent Sport UK Challenge. (R) 3.55 Grudge Match. (R) 4.10 Scrapheap Challenge. (R) 5.05 Cookery School. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 The Wright Stuff Extra with Gabby Logan. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 1.10 Meerkat Manor. (R) 1.45 Neighbours. 2.20 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: Love's Long Journey. (2005) 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Meerkat Manor. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 6.55 5 News at 7. 7.00 Cricket; 5 News. 8.00 Megastructures. (R) 5 News at 9. 9.00 CSI: Miami. 10.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 10.55 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 11.55 The Cell. (R) 12.55 SuperCasino. 3.55 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) 5.00 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

Wednesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. (R) 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cowboy Trap. (R) 11.45 Saints and Scroungers; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. (R) 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 The Great British Weather; BBC News; Regional News. 8.30 Sherlock. (R) 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 The National Lottery Wednesday Night Draws. 10.45 Not Going Out. (R) 11.15 Him & Her; National Lottery Update. 11.45 Film: My Fake Fiance. (2009) Premiere. Romantic comedy with Melissa Joan Hart and Joseph Lawrence; Weatherview. 1.15 Sign Zone: Bang Goes the Theory. (R) 1.45 Country Tracks. (R) 2.40 Richard Hammond's Engineering Connections. (R) 3.30 Royal Upstairs Downstairs. (R) 4.00 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Film: Road to Rio. (1947) Comedy, starring Bob Hope and Bing Crosby. 1.15 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 2.00 Wanted Down Under. (R) 3.00 Weakest Link. (R) 3.45 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Celebrity Eggheads. (R) 7.00 Rick Stein's Spain. (R) 8.00 Top Gear. (R) 9.00 The Code. 10.00 QI. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 Fake or Fortune? (R) 12.20 The Tudors. (R) 1.10 BBC News. 4.05 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Auction Party. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. (R) 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Corrie Years. 8.00 Lewis. (R) 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Nature's Fury: Fire Storm. (R) 11.35 Homes from Hell. (R) 12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.35 Film: MacArthur. (1977) Biopic, starring Gregory Peck. 4.45 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Hoobs. (R) 6.25 Freshly Squeezed. 6.50 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.20 According to Jim. 7.45 T4: Friends. (R) 8.15 T4: Friends. (R) 8.45 T4: 90210. 9.40 T4: Towie's Podcast from T4 on the Beach. 10.00 T4: Made in Chelsea. 11.00 T4: Friends. (R) 11.30 T4: Friends. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 1.05 Film: The Bravados. (1958) Western, starring Gregory Peck. 2.55 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 3.25 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 4.00 Deal or No Deal: Hall of Fame. (R) 5.00 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 5.30 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Channel 4 Presents – Will Bayley 2012. 8.00 Jo Frost: Extreme Parental Guidance. 9.00 24 Hours in A&E. 10.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Uncut. 10.50 The Inbetweeners. (R) 11.25 The Inbetweeners. (R) 11.55 4thoughts.tv. (R) 12.00 Music on 4: Ibiza Rocks. 12.20 The Killing. (R) 1.25 Film: Memoirs of an Invisible Man. (1992) 3.10 Brothers & Sisters. (R) 3.55 Hill Street Blues. (R) 4.50 Grudge Match. (R) 5.05 Cookery School. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 The Wright Stuff Extra with Gabby Logan. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 1.10 Meerkat Manor. (R) 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.10 Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) 3.15 Film: Jane Doe: Now You See It, Now You Don't. (2005) 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Meerkat Manor. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 Garden ER; 5 News Update. 8.00 The Removal Men: Portfolio; 5 News at 9. 9.00 NCIS. (R) 10.00 Film: Blade. (1998) Action thriller, starring Wesley Snipes. 12.25 Poker: The Big Game. 1.25 SuperCasino. 3.55 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.05 House Busters. (R) 5.00 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

Thursday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. (R) 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cowboy Trap. (R) 11.45 Saints and Scroungers; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. (R) 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 Traffic Cops. 9.00 Torchwood: Miracle Day. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Kids Behind Bars. (R) 11.35 Film: The Human Stain. (2003) Holiday Weatherview. 1.15 Sign Zone: Dying for a Drink – Panorama. (R) 1.45 Countryfile. (R) 2.40 Fake Britain. (R) 3.25 Royal Upstairs Downstairs. (R) 3.55 Saints and Scroungers. (R) 4.25 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Coast. (R) 11.50 Film: Hot Enough for June. (1964) Spy spoof, starring Dirk Bogarde. 1.15 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 2.00 Wanted Down Under. (R) 3.00 Weakest Link. (R) 3.45 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Escape to the Country. (R) 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Celebrity Eggheads. (R) 7.00 Madagascar. (R) 8.00 Rick Stein's Spain. 9.00 Town with Nicholas Crane. 10.00 Have I Got Old News for You. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 The Hour. (R) 12.20 The Tudors. (R) 1.10 BBC News.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Auction Party. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. (R) 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 The Repossessors Tonight. 8.00 Emmerdale. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Single-Handed. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Ronnie Corbett. (R) 11.35 Odd One In. (R) 12.20 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.20 The Repossessors Tonight. (R) 2.50 ITV Nightscreen. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Hoobs. (R) 6.25 Freshly Squeezed. 6.50 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.20 According to Jim. 7.45 T4: Friends. (R) 8.15 T4: Friends. (R) 8.45 T4: 90210. 9.40 T4: Sugababes' Podcast from T4 on the Beach. 9.55 T4: Made in Chelsea. 10.55 T4: Friends. (R) 11.25 T4: Friends. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 1.10 River Cottage Bites. (R) 1.20 Film: Thunder Over Arizona. (1956) 2.55 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 3.25 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 4.00 Deal or No Deal: Hall of Fame. (R) 5.00 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 5.30 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 Channel 4 Presents – Joe Beckwick 2012. 8.00 Help! My House Is Falling Down. 9.00 The Killing. 10.00 Coppers. (R) 11.05 4thoughts.tv. (R) 11.10 Lee Evans: Access All Arenas. (R) 12.10 Music on 4: The Album Chart Show. (R) 12.40 Music on 4: 4Play: Viva Brother. 12.55 Music on 4: The Album Chart Show: Spotlight. 1.10 Music on 4: 4Play: Flo and the Tantrums. 1.25 Music on 4: Hollyoaks Music Show. (R) 1.50 Cast Offs. (R) 2.45 The Sex Education Show. (R) 3.40 Brothers & Sisters. (R) 4.30 Wogan's Perfect Recall. (R) 4.55 Cookery School. (R) 5.50 The Treacle People. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 The Wright Stuff Extra with Gabby Logan. 12.10 5 News. 12.15 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 1.10 Meerkat Manor. (R) 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: The Last Trimester. (2006) 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Meerkat Manor. 6.25 OKI TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 How Do They Do It?; (R) 5 News. 8.00 Aircrash: Hudson River Landing. 9.00 New Cowboy Builders. 10.00 Candy Bar Girls. 11.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 12.00 SuperCasino. 3.55 Animal Rescue Squad. (R) 4.10 HouseBusters. (R) 5.00 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

Friday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Heir Hunters. (R) 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News; Weather. 11.00 Cowboy Trap. (R) 11.45 Saints and Scroungers; BBC News; Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.30 Regional News; Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Only Fools and Horses. (R) 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News; Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 The Good Cook; BBC News; Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 8.30 A Question of Sport. (R) 9.00 My Family. 9.30 Miranda. (R) 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 John Bishop's Britain. (R) 11.05 My Favourite Joke. 11.35 The National Lottery Friday Night Draws. 11.45 Film: Paycheck. (2003) Thriller, starring Ben Affleck; Weatherview. 1.40 Sign Zone: Rick Stein's Spain. (R) 2.40 Restoration Home. (R) 3.40 Royal Upstairs Downstairs. (R) 4.10 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.35 Coast. (R) 11.40 Film: The Story of an African Farm. (2004) 1.15 Diagnosis Murder. (R) 2.00 Wanted Down Under. (R) 3.00 Weakest Link. (R) 3.45 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.30 Flog It! (R) 5.15 Escape to the Country. 6.00 Eggheads. (R) 6.30 Live Athletics: The London Grand Prix. 8.30 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. (R) 10.00 The Rob Brydon Show. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.05 Film: Lymelife. (2008) 12.35 Film: Wilbur (Wants to Kill Himself). (2003) 2.15 BBC News. 4.10 Close.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News; Weather. 1.55 Regional News; Weather. 2.00 Auction Party. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Rosemary & Thyme. (R) 5.00 The Chase. (R) 6.00 Regional News; Weather. 6.30 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Someone's Daughter, Someone's Son. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Mad Max 2. (1981) 12.20 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. 2.25 Film: The Skeleton Key (2005) Horror, starring Kate Hudson. 4.05 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Hoobs. (R) 6.25 Freshly Squeezed. 6.50 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.20 According to Jim. 7.45 T4: Friends. (R) 8.15 T4: Friends. (R) 8.45 T4: 90210. 9.40 T4: The Hoff's Podcast from T4 on the Beach. 10.00 T4: Made in Chelsea. 11.00 T4: Friends. (R) 11.30 T4: Friends. (R) 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary. 12.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) 1.05 Film: Yangtse Incident. (1957) Fact-based naval adventure, starring Richard Todd. 2.55 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 3.25 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 4.00 Deal or No Deal: Hall of Fame. (R) 5.00 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 5.30 Come Dine with Me Extra Portions. (R) 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.30 Channel 4 Presents – Joe Cundy 2012. 7.35 Superheroes of Suburbia. 8.00 Come Dine with Me. 9.00 8 Out of 10 Cats. 9.30 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. 10.35 Chris Moyles' Quiz Night. 11.25 4thoughts.tv. (R) 11.30 The Big Bang Theory. 12.00 Sirens. (R) 1.05 Music on 4: 4Play: Blood Orange. 1.15 Music on 4: Abbey Road Debuts. (R) 1.30 My Name Is Earl. (R) 2.20 The Real Housewives of New Jersey. (R) 3.10 Brothers & Sisters. (R) 4.00 Hill Street Blues. (R) 4.50 Wogan's Perfect Recall. (R) 5.00 Ugly Betty. (R) 5.15 Cookery School. (R) 5.45 Yo Gabba Gabba! (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 The Wright Stuff Extra with Gabby Logan. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Ice Road Truckers. (R) 1.10 Meerkat Manor. (R) 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.10 Film: Stolen Innocence. (2007) 5.00 5 News at 5; Weather. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Meerkat Manor. (R) 6.25 OK! TV. 7.00 5 News at 7. 7.30 How Do They Do It?; (R) 5 News Update. 8.00 Danger: Diggers at Work; 5 News at 9. 9.00 Castle. 10.00 The Mentalist. (R) 10.55 CSI: Miami. (R) 11.55 Inside Hollywood. (R) 12.10 SuperCasino. 4.05 Motorsport Mundial. 4.30 Great Scientists. (R) 4.55 County Secrets. (R) 5.10 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.35 House Doctor. (R)

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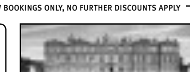

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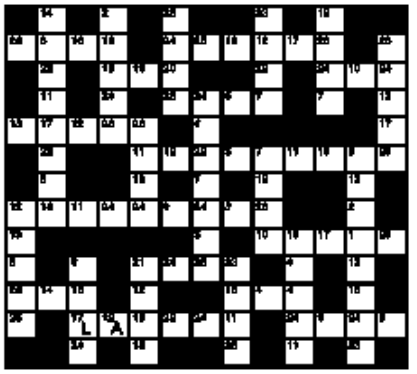
Brain Gym

No.127

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



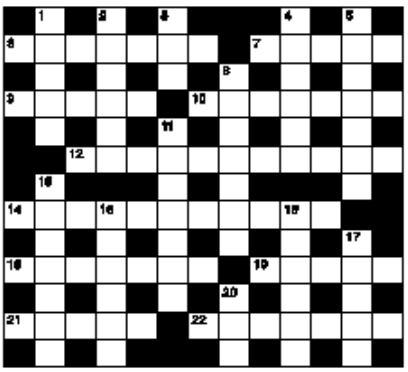
1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17 L
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12 A	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

R	L	I	Y	K	Z	J	M	H	O	C	X	Q
A	F	P	U	W	B	V	N	D	G	T	E	S

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues – both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

6. Is this what the mathematician is using dividers for? (7)
7. Fuel taken aboard, we hear, at the end of the Panama Canal (3)
9. A shelf for the unfinished account book (5)
10. A good one will choose his coats carefully (7)
12. How people moved by "The Tempest" felt? (5,6)
14. Presumably they are appreciative of services rendered (6,3)
18. Do the conventional thing and study how the horses run (7)
19. Machinery for the factory is a put up job (5)
21. Stop in the place, as expected (3)
22. 30 n. & 40 n. How kangaroos make progress (2,5,3,6)

Down

1 & 20 n. A minutiae lover of revolution any devices (11)
2. See 1 Down.
3. See 22 Across
4. See 22 Across
5. Held up by a gun man but insured! (7)
8. Contentious party demanding loud, dramatic movement (7)
11. There's a powerful drawback in this sport (7)
13. This can be proved by those people holding raw material (7)
15. Don't accept what has been discarded (6)
16. This will even out the wave (5)
17. Turns up the out lings (5)
20. A bit of poor, yellow grass (3)

Quick Clues:

Across

6. Gather (7)
7. Ghastly (3)
9. Chief (5)
10. Uprightness (7)
12. Wasteful (11)
14. Unloved (11)
18. Childish (7)
19. Live (3)
21. Secret (5)
22. Pluck (7)

Down

1. Cache (5)
2. Culmination (6)
3. Partaken (3)
4. Prelence (6)
5. Remote (7)
8. Stalk (7)
11. Fragile (7)
13. Nominal (7)
15. Mission (6)
16. Indulgence in costly pleasures (6)
17. Custom (5)
20. Ease (3)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS.
CRYPTIC - Across. 1 Succession, 7 Lime, 8 Pounds, 10 Crossing, 11 Mass, 13 Flapped, 15 Motive, 17 Toll, 18 Stupense, 21 Outline, 22 Prime, 23 Automatics. Down. 1 Swans, 2 Children, 3 Email, 4 Sect, 5 Verdict, 6 Capitted, 9 Stupended, 12 Pompeate, 14 Pulitzer, 16 Stowers, 19 Arrion, 20 Not. QUICK - Across. 1 Southbill, 7 Agree, 8 Mobile, 10 Upright, 11 Solo, 13 Dotty, 15 Dotted, 17 Prime, 18 Full stop, 21 Allow, 22 Lions, 23 Playwright. Down. 1 Strip, 2 Overture, 3 Remove, 4 Tell, 5 Usurper, 6 Collision, 9 Spotlight, 12 Chilling, 14 Tactful, 16 Motive, 19 Tank, 20 Grey.

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

		7		9		8		
2			8		1		6	4
6								3
		1	6		7		6	
4								6
	8		5	2	3	4		
9								2
1	4		7		8		9	5
		6		3		1		

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS :-

1	2	3	5	8	4	6	7	9
4	9	7	6	1	2	3	8	5
6	8	5	7	3	9	2	1	4
2	1	4	3	6	7	9	5	8
7	5	6	9	4	8	1	3	2
3	4	9	2	5	1	8	6	7
8	7	1	4	9	6	5	2	3
9	6	2	8	7	5	4	1	3
5	3	8	1	2	3	7	9	6

Circlegram

Replace the question marks with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION
The letter represented by the question mark is G. Sciatica, Gearbox, Gearshift, all begin with G.

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Bungalow with ample parking

A DETACHED bungalow with no chain has come on to the market in a prestigious setting in Willenhall.

Number 37 Mill Lane, Short Heath, has three bedrooms, a separate dining room, garage and rear garden.

The property is for sale through Dixons estate agents for an asking price of £225,000. A front door leads into an entrance hall, which has wooden flooring and doors leading to the dining room, which has a wall-mounted gas fire, and lounge. In this 15ft x 11ft room, there's a brick feature fireplace housing a gas fire and sliding patio doors opening onto the rear garden.

The kitchen measures 12ft x 6ft and has a range of base and wall mounted cupboards, rolled-edge worksurfaces, stainless steel sink and drainer unit, tiled floor and a door to the rear garden.

In the tiled bathroom, there's a bath with mixer tap and shower attachment over, pedestal wash basin and WC.

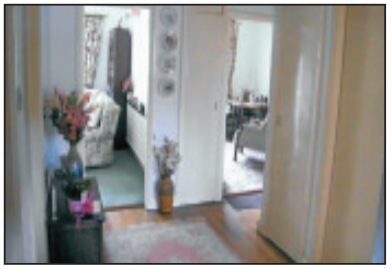
Wardrobes

All three bedrooms – the main measuring 12ft 10in x 10ft 11in – include a single glazed window, radiator and fitted wardrobes.

Outside, the property is set back from the road behind a brick retaining wall, shrubbed area and an in-out driveway providing ample off-road parking and leading to the side garage.

To the rear, there's a paved patio that leads down to a mature garden with a lawn, display borders and shrubbery. There is gated access to the front of the property.

For more information or to arrange a viewing, contact the estate agent on 01902 634 497.



The entrance hall has wooden flooring

This modern detached bungalow in Mill Lane, Short Heath, has gone on the market priced at £225,000

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NEW NEW NEW NEW

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Offers around £159,950

NEW NEW NEW NEW

LILAC AVENUE, YEW TREE
● Beautifully presented three bed extended semi ● gas c/h and upvc d/g ● Spacious Lounge/ Dining Room ● Kitchen with Breakfast area ● Upstairs Bathroom ● Driveway ● Rear garden ● Detached Garage
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JESSON CLOSE, BIRMINGHAM ROAD
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FOLLYHOUSE CLOSE, HIGHGATE
● Beautifully presented three bed semi ● Gas c/h & upvc d/g ● Lounge ● Modern Dining Kitchen ● Stylish Bathroom with separate Shower ● Rear garden ● Driveway
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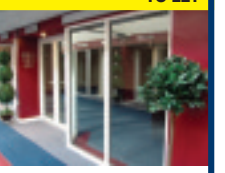

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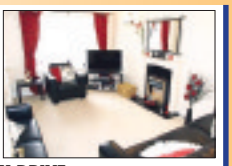
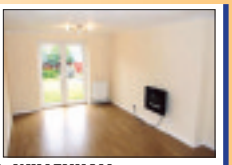


BANEBERRY DRIVE
FEATHERSTONE

- ★ Beautifully presented extended semi-detached property
- ★ Three bedrooms
- ★ Refitted dining kitchen with integrated appliances
- ★ Separate utility and guest wc
- ★ uPVC double glazing
- ★ Gas central heating
- ★ Enclosed rear garden with patio
- ★ Garage

£149,995 Offers



NEW INVENTION, WILLENHALL
LITTLETON ROAD

- ★ Traditional style mid town house
- ★ Two bedrooms
- ★ Gas central heating
- ★ UPVC double glazing
- ★ 19ft through lounge Garden to rear
- ★ Off road parking
- ★ Internal viewing recommended
- ★ No chain

Offers in excess of £94,950

WILLENHALL
KEYSMITH CLOSE

- ★ Superb top floor apartment
- ★ Two bedrooms ★ Gas central heating
- ★ UPVC double glazed windows
- ★ Fitted kitchen with a range of appliances
- ★ Fitted Jack and Jill bathroom with separate shower cubicle
- ★ 22 ft lounge/dining room
- ★ Allocated parking space

£75,000

SHORT HEATH
HUNTS LANE

- ★ Splendidly appointed double fronted detached residence
- ★ Spacious and versatile family living accommodation
- ★ Four bedrooms and two en-suites
- ★ Gas fired radiator central heating
- ★ UPVC double glazed windows
- ★ Superb UPVC double glazed conservatory
- ★ Excellent fitted dining kitchen with central island
- ★ Family bathroom with Victorian style bath and separate shower

WAS £265,000 NOW £249,950

COPPICE FARM ESTATE, WILLENHALL
HEBDEN GROVE

- ★ Spacious modern style detached residence
- ★ Four bedrooms
- ★ En-suite shower room
- ★ Lounge and dining room
- ★ Conservatory
- ★ Through reception hall
- ★ Garage and block paved driveway
- ★ Refitted bathroom

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £210,000

WILLENHALL
DURSLEY CLOSE, OFF STROUD AVENUE

- ★ Superbly appointed extended semi detached property
- ★ Three bedrooms ★ Two reception rooms
- ★ Gas central heating
- ★ UPVC double glazed windows
- ★ Extended fitted kitchen inc oven, hob, dishwasher, refrigerator and freezer
- ★ Fully tiled refitted bathroom with shower
- ★ Garage and off road parking

WAS £145,500 NOW £142,500

ESSINGTON
FORREST AVENUE

- ★ Pleasantly appointed three bedrooms semi
- ★ Popular Essington village location
- ★ Gas c/heating ★ D/glazing
- ★ Refitted dining kitchen inc appliances
- ★ Garage and concrete-print driveway
- ★ Upstairs bathroom
- ★ Viewing essential

WAS £149,995 NOW £147,500

WEDNESFIELD
ELLARDS DRIVE

- ★ A beautifully presented extended detached property
- ★ Three bedrooms, all with fitted wardrobes
- ★ UPVC double glazed conservatory
- ★ UPVC double glazing
- ★ Gas central heating
- ★ Low maintenance rear garden
- ★ Off road parking with rear garage
- ★ Viewing recommended

£160,000

WEDNESFIELD
MILL LANE

- ★ Traditional style semi-detached property
- ★ Three bedrooms
- ★ Two reception rooms
- ★ Conservatory
- ★ UPVC double glazing
- ★ Majority central heating
- ★ Large enclosed rear garden
- ★ In need of some modernisation

£119,995 NO CHAIN VIEWING ESSENTIAL

WILLENHALL
PERTH ROAD, SUMMER HAYES ESTATE

- ★ Pleasant link detached bungalow in cul-de-sac position
- ★ Two bedrooms
- ★ Gas central heating
- ★ UPVC double glazed windows
- ★ 18ft rear lounge
- ★ Garage and off road parking
- ★ Pleasant gardens to front and rear
- ★ Internal viewing strongly recommended

£145,950 NO CHAIN

NEW INVENTION
CANNOCK ROAD

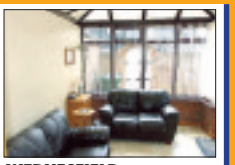
- ★ Splendidly appointed traditional style detached residence
- ★ Spacious family living accommodation
- ★ Three bedrooms
- ★ Extended to the rear at ground floor level
- ★ Superb L shaped fitted dining kitchen
- ★ Two reception rooms, lounge with an additional dining area
- ★ Gas fired radiator central heating
- ★ Replacement UPVC double glazed windows
- ★ Open house viewing Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th June 11 am - 3 pm

£199,950

CUMBERLAND ROAD, COUNTY BRIDGE
WILLENHALL

- ★ Traditional style mid town house
- ★ Three bedrooms
- ★ Gas central heating ★ Double glazing
- ★ Front and rear low maintenance gardens
- ★ Garage to rear (subject to additional charge)
- ★ Ideal first time purchase or investment property
- ★ Viewing recommended
- ★ No chain

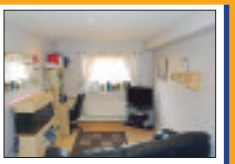
£99,999



ASHMORE PARK, WEDNESFIELD
REYNOLDS WALK

- ★ Pleasantly appointed mid terraced property
- ★ Three bedrooms
- ★ UPVC double glazed conservatory
- ★ UPVC double glazing
- ★ Gas central heating
- ★ First floor shower room
- ★ Enclosed low maintenance rear garden
- ★ Garage

£114,995 OFFERS



WILLENHALL
KINGFISHER COURT

- ★ Superb ground floor flat
- ★ One bedroom ★ Gas central heating
- ★ UPVC double glazed windows
- ★ 23ft lounge/kitchen area
- ★ Security gated parking at the rear
- ★ Ideal first time purchase

£69,950 OFFERS - NO CHAIN VIEWING RECOMMENDED

WILLENHALL
CLARKES LANE

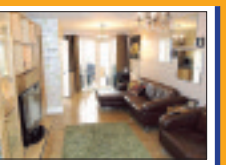
- ★ Surprisingly spacious much improved semi detached property
- ★ Three bedrooms ★ Gas central heating
- ★ UPVC double glazed windows ★ Two reception rooms
- ★ Superb UPVC double glazed conservatory
- ★ Well equipped fitted kitchen
- ★ Utility room and downstairs wc
- ★ Various fixtures and fittings included
- ★ DETACHED GARAGE AND REAR PARKING

WAS £141,500 NOW £136,000

WEDNESFIELD
BAYLIS AVENUE

- ★ Pleasantly appointed semi detached property
- ★ Two bedrooms
- ★ Gas central heating
- ★ UPVC double glazed windows
- ★ 20ft through lounge/dining room
- ★ Side study/office room
- ★ Refitted bathroom with shower
- ★ Lovely established rear garden with timber decked patio

WAS £107,500 NOW £104,950



COPPICE FARM
BUTTERMERE GROVE

- ★ Immaculately presented modern style town house
- ★ Open aspects to front of property
- ★ Three bedrooms
- ★ uPVC double glazed conservatory
- ★ Refitted kitchen with integrated appliances
- ★ Refitted bathroom with corner bath and shower over
- ★ Gas central heating and uPVC double glazing
- ★ Garage and off road parking

WAS £145,000 NOW £142,500

NEW INVENTION
SANDLAND ROAD

- ★ Spacious four bedroom semi-detached property
- ★ Two reception rooms ★ Gas central heating
- ★ Part UPVC double glazed windows
- ★ Kitchen and store room/utility
- ★ Bathroom with white suite and shower
- ★ Rear garden
- ★ A family home offering excellent potential
- ★ No chain

Was £117,995 Now £114,995 - NO CHAIN

NEW INVENTION, WILLENHALL
LICHFIELD ROAD

★ Delightful extended detached bungalow
★ Two bedrooms
★ Two reception rooms
★ Gas central heating
★ uPVC double glazing
★ Extended kitchen and dining room
★ Garage and carport
★ Pleasant gardens

£189,950 OFFERS

BENTLEY, WALSALL
HAWTHORN PLACE

★ Pleasantly appointed double fronted semi detached property
★ Two bedrooms
★ Two reception rooms
★ Fitted kitchen
★ 16ft through lounge
★ Generous rear garden
★ Gas central heating
★ UPVC double glazed windows

£99,995 IDEAL FIRST TIME PURCHASE

SHORT HEATH
WOODSIDE WAY, THE WOODLANDS

★ Pleasant semi detached property being delightfully situated
★ Was three bedrooms, currently two and a dressing room (could easily be converted back)
★ Gas central heating
★ uPVC double glazed windows
★ Conservatory
★ 22ft through lounge/dining room
★ Detached garage
★ Block paved driveway and patio

£134,995

WILLENHALL
PINSON ROAD

★ Spacious, extended traditional style end town house
★ Considerably improved family accommodation
★ Four bedrooms
★ Three reception rooms
★ Gas central heating, uPVC double glazed windows
★ Refitted kitchen inc. oven, hob, refrigerator, freezer and washing machine
★ Lovely established rear garden
★ Off road parking to the front

£119,950 NO CHAIN

WILLENHALL
BILSTON LANE

★ Spacious traditional style extended detached family residence
★ Pleasantly appointed accommodation
★ Four bedrooms
★ Gas central heating
★ Majority double glazing
★ Spacious extended dining kitchen
★ Generous rear garden with timber decking
★ Garage and driveway

£157,950

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SUMMER HAYES
EDINBURGH DRIVE

★ Considerably improved semi detached bungalow
★ Cul-de-sac position
★ Two bedrooms
★ Gas central heating
★ External UPVC double glazed windows
★ Lounge and dining/sitting room
★ Garage and block paved driveway
★ Pleasant rear garden

£145,995

WILLENHALL
FURZEBANK WAY, OFF STROUD AVENUE

★ Pleasant semi detached property in corner plot location
★ Three bedrooms
★ Gas central heating
★ UPVC double glazing
★ Spacious 14ft rear lounge
★ Upstairs bathroom with shower
★ Garage at rear with driveway
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Internal viewing recommended

£124,995 NO CHAIN

WILLENHALL
ERNEST CLARK CLOSE, OFF STROUD AVENUE

★ Pleasant town house style property
★ Ideal for first time buyers or a young family
★ Three bedrooms
★ Gas central heating
★ UPVC double glazed windows
★ Spacious 27ft through lounge
★ Dining room and sun room
★ No related chain

£87,450 NO CHAIN

WILLENHALL
NEWLANDS CLOSE

★ Pleasant first floor maisonette
★ Popular and convenient location
★ Cul-de-sac position
★ Two bedrooms
★ uPVC DG windows
★ 13ft rear lounge
★ Bathroom with shower
★ Garage in block to the side

£67,950 NO CHAIN

NEW INVENTION
FLETCHER ROAD

★ Extended two bedroom traditional style semi
★ Gas central heating, part UPVC double glazed windows
★ Extended sitting room and guest cloakroom
★ Upstairs bathroom with white suite
★ Lounge and separate dining room
★ Pleasant rear garden
★ Off road parking
★ Internal viewing recommended

£93,500 NO CHAIN

COPPICE FARM
COTSWOLD GROVE

★ Pleasant first floor maisonette being delightfully situated
★ Purpose built development
★ One bedroom
★ Electric storage heating
★ Double glazed windows
★ Bathroom with shower
★ Communal gardens and parking
★ Age restriction, 55 years old minimum

£60,000 FOR 75% SHARED OWNERSHIP NO CHAIN

BENTLEY
POPLAR AVENUE

★ Traditional style semi-detached property
★ Thought ideal for first time purchasers
★ Three bedrooms
★ Gas central heating
★ UPVC single glazed windows
★ Upstairs bathroom with shower
★ Spacious 21ft through lounge
★ Internal viewing recommended

£94,500 OFFERS NO CHAIN

WILLENHALL
LONGWOOD RISE

★ Pleasantly appointed semi detached property
★ Popular location off Stroud Avenue
★ Three bedrooms
★ Gas central heating
★ UPVC double glazed windows
★ Superb refitted dining kitchen with appliances
★ Fitted bathroom with shower
★ Garage and ample parking

£134,950 NO CHAIN

WILLENHALL
JOHN HARPER STREET

★ Spacious Victorian style butt detached residence
★ With large side yard and outbuilding
★ Three bedrooms
★ Two reception rooms
★ Gas central heating
★ Upstairs bathroom
★ Garage/outbuildings (34ft x 11ft)
★ Yard area (67ft x 24ft approx)

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £100,000

WILLENHALL, COPPICE FARM ESTATE
BOWNESS GROVE

★ Pleasantly appointed modern style detached family residence
★ Sought-after location
★ Four bedrooms
★ Master bedroom with en-suite shower room
★ Lounge and separate dining room
★ Fitted breakfast kitchen, inc. oven and hob
★ Downstairs guest cloakroom
★ Double glazed windows and gas central heating throughout

£224,950 Viewing Essential

NEW INVENTION
JOHN RILEY DRIVE

★ Pleasantly appointed detached family residence
★ Cul-de-sac position ★ Three bedrooms
★ UPVC double glazed windows
★ Gas central heating
★ Refitted kitchen
★ Fitted bathroom with shower
★ Generous garden to the rear
★ Integral garage

£152,950 OFFERS

SNEYD PARK
KEWSTOKE ROAD

★ Pleasantly appointed spacious detached property
★ Four bedrooms
★ UPVC double glazing
★ Gas central heating
★ Refitted kitchen with integrated appliances
★ Refitted bathroom with shower
★ Lounge and separate dining room
★ Detached rear garage
★ Off road parking

£194,950 OFFERS

SUMMER HAYES
STIRLING CRESCENT

★ Pleasant semi detached bungalow
★ Two bedrooms
★ Gas central heating
★ UPVC double glazed windows
★ Spacious 17ft rear lounge
★ Fitted kitchen
★ Bathroom with shower
★ Garage and ample off road parking
★ No upward chain

£127,950 OFFERS

WALSALL
FLEMING PLACE

★ Pleasantly appointed town house property
★ Cul-de-sac position
★ Three bedrooms
★ Gas central heating
★ UPVC double glazed windows
★ 19ft fitted dining kitchen with oven and hob
★ Upstairs fitted bathroom with shower
★ Pleasant rear garden

£89,995

WEDNESFIELD
YALE DRIVE

★ Modern style town house in popular Wednesfield development
★ Three bedrooms, master with en suite
★ Gas central heating and double glazed windows
★ Fitted kitchen with oven and hob
★ Spacious through lounge dining room
★ Separate fitted bathroom
★ Pleasant rear gardens
★ Off road parking

£149,995 OFFERS

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ESTATE AGENCY of the YEAR

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Estate Agents & Lettings

Well Lane
Bloxwich
- Three Bedroom Detached
- Family Bathroom with separate W.C.
- Integral Garage
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Large Driveway
- Fully Furnished
- DHSS Accepted

£595 PCM

Keepers Gate
Walsall
- Two Bedroom Flat
- One Reception room
- Intergrated Cooker & Washer/Dryer
- En-Suite●Electric Heating
- Double Glazing●Sorry No DHSS

£580 PCM

Pommel Close
Walsall
- Three Bed Link Detached
- Lounge●Garage
- Kitchen/Diner
- Utility●Bathroom
- Front & Rear Garden

£525 PCM

Penblebury Close
Walsall
- Two Bedroom Second Floor Apartment
- Lounge/Diner
- Allocated Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Sorry NO DHSS, Pets or Smokers

£525 PCM

Sycamore Road
Walsall
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Porch●Lounge●Dining Room
- Kitchen●Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking●Sorry No DHSS

£495 PCM

West Bromwich Road
Walsall
- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
- Open Plan Lounge/Diner
- Inner Lobby●Kitchen●Ground Floor Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens●Gas Central Heating
- Sorry No DHSS

£495 PCM

New Forest Road
WALSALL
- Two Bedroom Semi
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Lounge●Garage
- Sorry No DHSS

£475 PCM

Nursery Road
Bloxwich
- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Entrance Hall●Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner●Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing/Central Heating
- DHSS Accepted

£475 PCM

Bloxwich Road
Bloxwich
- Two Bed End Terrace
- Lounge●Fitted Kitchen●Two Bathrooms
- Double Glaing & Heating
- Rear Garden & Off Road Parking
- DHSS Accepted

£450 PCM

Blakenall Heath & Guild Court
Walker Road
- Two Bedroom Apartments
- Lounge/Kitchen● Family Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating● Double Glazing
- DHSS Accepted

From £450 PCM

Smiths Flour Mill
Walsall
- One & Two Bedroom Apartments
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Secure Entrance
- Sorry NO DHSS

£450 PCM

Yemscroft, Lichfield Road
Rushall
- Two Bed Top Floor Flat
- Lounge
- Bathroom
- Kitchen with Appliances
- Shared Communal Gardens
- Sorry no DHSS
- Sorry no Smokers or Pets

£450 PCM

Kent Street
Walsall
- Three Bedroom Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen●Bathroom
- DHSS Accepted

£450 PCM

Rowland Street
Walsall
- Two Bedrooms
- One Reception room
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden
- DHSS Accepted

£450 PCM

Beatrice Street
Bloxwich
- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- DHSS Accepted

£450 PCM

Tanners Court
Walsall
- One Bedroom Apartment
- Part Furnished●Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen● Bathroom with Shower
- Allocated Parking●Sorry No DHSS

From £425 PCM

Gallery Square
Walsall
- One Bedroom Apartment
- Lounge●Bathroom
- Fitted kitchen
- Double glazing●Heating
- Sorry no DHSS

£400 PCM

Marton Court
Bloxwich
- One & Two Bed Apartments
- Fitted Kitchen●Bathroom
- Lounge●Double Glazing
- Heating●DHSS Accepted

From £400 PCM

Bridge Street Lofts
Walsall
- Two Bedroom Apartment
- One Reception room
- Heating
- Secure Entrance
- Sorry No DHSS

£400 PCM

Lincoln Road
Walsall
- Three Bedroom Flat
- Double Glazing
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Parking
- DHSS Accepted

£375 PCM

Thornbury Road
Walsall
- One Bedroom Apartment
- Lounge
- Bathroom
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Sorry no DHSS

£395 PCM

Harrison Street
Bloxwich
- Two Bedroom Flat
- Lounge
- Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- DHSS Accepted

£375 PCM

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NO SET UP FEES
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FREE OF CHARGE

Bloxwich Road
Walsall
- One & Two Bedroom Flats
- Lounge●Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- DHSS Accepted

From £360 PCM

Barracks Lane
Bloxwich
- One Bedroom Flat
- Kitchen●Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- DHSS Accepted

£325 PCM

Harrison Street
Bloxwich
- Two Bedroom Flat
- Lounge●Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazing●Electric heating
- DHSS Accepted

£300 PCM

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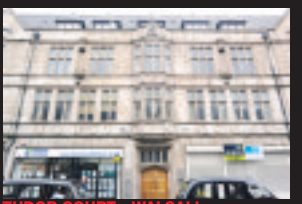
SALES & LETTINGS

ELWELL STREET - WEDNESBURY
A 3 BED LINK DETACHED

- THIS PROPERTY IS NEW TO MARKET & MUST BE SEEN TO BE APPRECIATED
- IT IS WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT & BENEFITS FROM ENSUITE TO MASTER
- MODERN STYLE PROPERTY WITH OFF ROAD PARKING & GARAGE TO SIDE

£159,950



TUDOR COURT - WALSALL
A 1 BED FIRST FLOOR FLAT

- THIS PROPERTY IS NEW TO MARKET
- TOWN CENTRE LOCATION
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL TO APPRECIATE

£69,950

FRANCHISE STREET - WEDNESBURY
A 3 BED END TERRACED

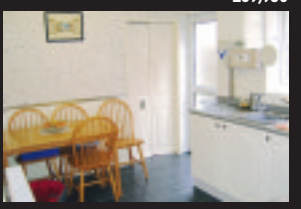
- THIS PROPERTY IS NEW TO MARKET & BENEFITS FROM NO UPWARD CHAIN
- MODERN STYLE PROPERTY WITH ALLOCATED PARKING TO THE REAR
- WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT & VIEWING IS ESSENTIAL TO APPRECIATE

£124,995

FRANCHISE STREET - DARLASTON
A 3 BED SEMI DETACHED

- FULLY MODERNISED THROUGHOUT
- IDEAL FAMILY HOME
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL

£109,950



RICHARDS STREET - WEDNESBURY
A 3 BED SEMI DETACHED

- THIS PROPERTY IS NEW TO MARKET & OFFERS GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY
- BENEFITS FROM A BREAKFAST KITCHEN & UTLITY ROOM
- VIEWING IS ESSENTIAL TO APPRECIATE THE ACCOMMODATION ON OFFER

£115,000

WANTED

WE REQUIRE PROPERTIES IDEAL FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS UPTO £100,000 SEVERAL BUYERS WAITING

POPLAR AVENUE - BENTLEY
A 2 BED SEMI DETACHED

- NICE FAMILY HOME MUST BE SEEN
- BENEFITS FROM AN EXTENDED KITCHEN
- PARKING & GARAGE TO REAR

£95,000

MARSHALL ROAD - WILLENHALL
A 2 BED DETACHED BUNGALOW

- THIS PROPERTY IS NEW TO MARKET & VIEWING IS ESSENTIAL TO APPRECIATE
- EXTENDED PROPERTY PROVIDING AMPLE LIVING SPACE WITH WORKSHOP TO REAR
- IMMACULATELY PRESENTED THROUGHOUT - IDEAL FAMILY HOME

£164,995

WANTED

WE REQUIRE PROPERTIES IN NEED OF MODERNISATION SEVERAL BUYERS WAITING

MEYRICK ROAD - WEST BROMWICH
A 3 BED SEMI DETACHED

- WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT & BENEFITS FROM REFITTED KITCHEN
- DECKING AREA TO REAR GARDEN WITH GENEROUS SIZE FEATURE POND
- VIEWING IS ESSENTIAL TO APPRECIATE THE ACCOMMODATION ON OFFER

£120,000

WESTMORE WAY - WEDNESBURY
A 5 BED DETACHED

- THIS PROPERTY IS NEW TO MARKET
- IDEAL FAMILY HOME AMPLE LIVING SPACE
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL TO APPRECIATE

£239,950

WANTED

WE REQUIRE 3 BED PROPERTIES WITH IN THE LOCAL AREA UPTO £120,000 SEVERAL BUYERS WAITING

MILL STREET - DARLASTON
A 2 BED SEMI DETACHED

- OFFERS GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY
- REAR ACCESS WITH OFF ROAD PARKING
- MUST BE SEEN TO BE APPRECIATED

£76,000

ATTENTION LANDLORDS!!!

WE URGENTLY REQUIRE FURTHER PROPERTIES TO LET WITHIN THE LOCAL AREA

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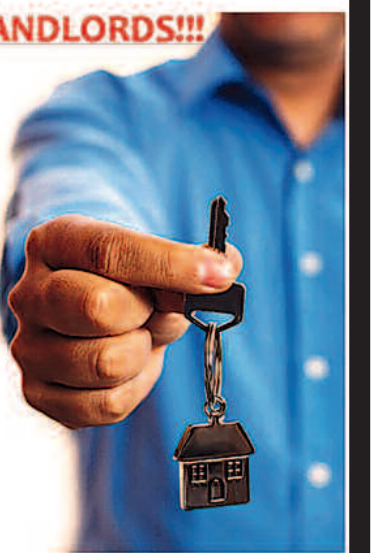

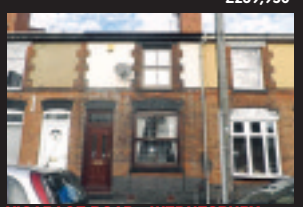

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Pooles Lane, Short Heath, Willenhall
Willenhall

★★CASH OFFERS ONLY★★ 3 Bedroom Semi ★ No Upward Chain ★ Central Heating ★ Double Glazing ★ Entrance Porch ★ Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen ★ Downstairs Fitted Bathroom ★ Verandah ★ Drive & Narrow Garage ★ Enclosed Garden
OFFERS AROUND: £62,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

Cherrywood Green, Stowlawn, Bilston
Bilston — REDUCED

Modern two bedroomed mid terraced property situated on a popular residential development. Having gas central heating and wooden double glazing the accommodation comprises reception hall, guest WC, kitchen, lounge, conservatory, two double bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking to the front, enclosed rear garden. Ideal for First time buyers
OFFERS AROUND: £87,500
Viewing: 01902 633323

Newman Avenue, Lanesfield
Lanesfield — REDUCED

★★£500 PAID TOWARDS SOLICITORS FEES★★ A Spacious 3 Bedroom End Terrace with Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating, The property is conveniently located to Birmingham New Road giving easy access to Wolverhampton and Dudley Centres. Other amenities such as shops, schools, public transport and local road network. No Upward Chain.
OFFERS AROUND: £89,950
Viewing: 01902 633323

Hinchliffe Avenue, Coseley
Coseley — REDUCED

A three bedroom semi detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. The property briefly comprises reception hall, fitted kitchen, lounge/ diner, conservatory, 3 bedrooms, family shower room, rear garden, off road parking and garage.
OFFERS AROUND: £112,950
Viewing: 01902 633323

Fenmere Close, Park Hall, Wolverhampton
Wolverhampton

★★SURVEY MUST BE VIEWED ★★ NEW CARPETS IN MASTER BEDROOM, STAIRS & LANDING★★ Much improved, extended & upgraded 4 bedroom semi detached property having the benefit of UPVC double glazing & gas central heating. This superb family home is located in a quiet cul-de-sacc & briefly comprises reception hall, spacious lounge, re-fitted kitchen (with integrated appliances), dining room, conservatory, 4 bedrooms, (master with shower cubicle & fitted family bathroom, rear garden, ample print off road parking for around 6 vehicles & garage) VIRTUAL TOUR ON OUR WEBSITE.
OFFERS AROUND: £169,995
Viewing: 01902 633323

Riverbank Road, Riverpoint, Willenhall
Willenhall

Spacious modern detached on sought after Riverpoint development, central heating, upvc double glazing, no upward chain, 3 double bedrooms, hall, guest wc, lounge, dining room, conservatory, 15ft fitted breakfast kitchen, family bathroom, side garage and good front drive, gardens, scope to extend to side (stpp) or for additional parking.
OFFERS AROUND: £183,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

Eaton Rise, Summer Hayes, Willenhall
Willenhall

SPACIOUS, EXTENDED DETACHED BUNGALOW WITH ADJOINING SIM-ANEX ON GENEROUS CORNER PLOT. Comprising gas central heating, UPVC double glazing, entrance hall, lounge, open-plan family room, dining room & 20ft re-fitted breakfast kitchen with integral appliances, fitted bathroom. A door leads from kitchen to Annex comprising lounge & kitchen area (currently used as launchs). The property occupies a generous corner plot with mature landscaped gardens with 3 car drive & integral garage to the front.
OFFERS AROUND: £189,995
Viewing: 01902 633323

Princethorpe Road, Willenhall, West Mids
West Mids — REDUCED

A four bedroom modern detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. The property briefly comprises, reception hall, guest W.C, fitted kitchen diner with utility area, lounge, family bathroom, 4 bedrooms, master with en-suite, rear gardens, off road parking and garage.
OFFERS AROUND: £194,950
Viewing: 01902 633323

Broad Lane, Essington
Essington

★★MUST BE VIEWED★★ A good sized detached bungalow on a nice sized plot having the benefit of sought after location, double glazing and gas central heating. This splendid property further comprises, porch, reception hall, lounge, sitting room, extended kitchen diner, 2 double bedrooms, family bathroom, attic room, front and rear gardens, block paved driveway for several vehicles and garage. VIRTUAL TOUR ON OUR WEBSITE
OFFERS AROUND: £229,950
Viewing: 01902 633323

Banks Street, Willenhall
Willenhall

NOTICE OF OFFER 22 Banks Street, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV13 1SP By order of the mortgagees in possession, we would advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £182,000. Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify the selling agents of their best offer during the course of the next 7 days or prior to exchange of contracts Paul Dubberley & Co, 14 Navroad, Willenhall, WV13 2BG. 01902 633323.
OFFERS AROUND: £179,995
Viewing: 01902 633323

Great Bridge Road, Bilston
Bilston

A modern 2 bedroom end of terrace property having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, electric heating and no upward chain. Ideal for first time buyer or landlord the property further comprises, reception hall, kitchen, lounge, 2 bedrooms, family bathroom, rear garden and off road parking.
OFFERS AROUND: £70,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

Memorial Close, Willenhall
Willenhall

Well presented modern 3 bedroom detached house, central heating & double glazing, hall, lounge, fitted kitchen diner, fitted bathroom, garage, double drive, front & rear gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £165,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

Quilter Close, Bentley, Walsall
Walsall

Ideal 1st Purchase- 3 bedroom terrace house, no upward chain, upvc double glazing, part central heating, entrance porch, hall, guest wc, lounge, fitted kitchen diner, upvc conservatory, house bathroom, front & rear gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £89,950
Viewing: 01902 633323

Dilloways Lane, Willenhall
Willenhall

Extended & much improved 3 bedroom semi-detached benefiting from central heating & double glazing, hall, 25ft through lounge, 13ft dining room, fitted kitchen, re-fitted bathroom, 2 car drive & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £128,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

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Eldon Street, Darlaston
Darlaston

A secluded 3 bedroom detached bungalow having the benefit of no upward chain, electric central heating and part double glazing. Located in a private driveway for just 2 properties this unique property briefly comprises, porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, spacious bathroom and front and rear gardens. VIRTUAL TOUR ONLINE
OFFERS AROUND: £135,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

Gosport Close, Stowheath, Wolverhampton
Wolverhampton

Modern semi-detached BUNGALOW, NO CHAIN, 2 DOUBLE BEDROOMS, deceptively spacious, wheelchair friendly, central heating, double glazing, entrance porch, hall, lounge, fitted beech kitchen with integral appliances, Re-fitted bathroom, large store/study, front & rear gardens, front & side drive for upto 4 cars.
OFFERS AROUND: £117,500
Viewing: 01902 633323

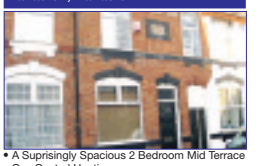
Victoria Street, Willenhall
Willenhall

8 x brand new 3 bedroom luxury modern terrace family homes, having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating, fitted intruder alarm and with no upward chain. These excellent properties briefly comprise, reception hallway, lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen, 3 bedrooms (master with ensuite shower room), family bathroom, rear garden and allocated parking spaces to rear.
OFFERS AROUND: £99,995
Viewing: 01902 633323

Magness Crescent, Willenhall
Willenhall

Well presented, extended 3/4 bedroom semi detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. In a sought after location the property briefly comprises, re-fitted fitted kitchen, utility area, spacious L-shaped lounge, ground floor rear extention (bedroom four) 3 bedrooms on 1st floor, re-fitted family bathroom with shower, garage, off road parking and rear garden. No upward chain.
OFFERS AROUND: £129,995
Viewing: 01902 633323

Cobden Street, Darlaston, Darlaston
Darlaston



- A Suprisingly Spacious 2 Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (as specified)
- Dining Room with Ornate Cast Iron Fireplace

OFFERS AROUND: £89,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Honeybourne Way, Kingfisher Estate,
Willenhall Willenhall

Ideal investment or 1st time purchase, REFURBISHED 2 bedroom semi-detached house, no upward chain, central heating, double glazing, lounge, RE-FITTED kitchen, bathroom, side drive with scope to extend (stpp), rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £95,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

Weston Drive, Millfields, Bilston
Bilston

Well presented 3 bedroom detached, central heating, double glazing, alarm, reception hall, guest wc, lounge with feature fireplace, dining room, fitted kitchen with integral appliances, re-fitted house bathroom, en-suite to master bedroom, garage & drive, rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £179,950
Viewing: 01902 633323

Forge Road, Wednesbury

- Presenting an Extended 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Gas Central Heating
- Ideally Located for Access to Darlaston Town Centre
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £79,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Peach Avenue, Darlaston

- A Mostly Double Glazed 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating
- Cul-de-Sac Location
- Reception Hall

OFFERS AROUND: £99,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Willenhall Street, Darlaston

- A Deceptively Spacious 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (as specified)
- Off Road Parking

OFFERS AROUND: £114,995
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Dorsett Road, Darlaston
Darlaston

- A Period 3 Bedroom Butt Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating
- Many Original Feature Remain
- No Upward Chain

OFFERS AROUND: £128,495
Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wolverhampton Road, Heath Town,
Wolverhampton Wolverhampton

OPEN TO OFFERS , SUIT LANDLORD OR FIRST TIME BUYER A first floor flat having the benefit of no upward chain, UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. Located close to Wolverhampton centre the property briefly comprises, communal security entrance, reception hall, kitchen, lounge, 2 bedrooms, bathroom separate W.C and communal parking & gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £52,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

Hawthorne Place, Bentley, Walsall
Walsall

EXTENDED SEMI-DETACHED, NO UPWARD CHAIN, SECURE PARKING, DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING (as specified), CUL-De-SAC LOCATION. 2 double bedrooms, newly fitted kitchen, 17ft through lounge, sitting room, dining room, bathroom, downstairs wc, front & rear gardens.
OFFERS AROUND: £95,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

Chaucer Avenue, Willenhall
Willenhall — NEW

Deceptively spacious modern semi-detached, 3 good bedrooms, central heating, double glazing, reception hall, guest wc, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen with integral appliances, family bathroom, garage & 3 car drive & rear garden with decked patio.
OFFERS AROUND: £125,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

Archer Road, Leamore
Leamore

Good size plot extended and improved with further potential for extensions and possible building plot at rear (subject to planning permission), three bedroom end terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. The property briefly comprises, porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, conservatory, fitted kitchen, utility area, downstairs shower room / WC, 3 bedrooms, family bathroom and good-size rear gardens with access for vehicles.
OFFERS AROUND: £144,995
Viewing: 01902 633323

Bure Grove, Riverpoint, Willenhall
Willenhall

A well presented two bedroom modern middle terrace property having the benefit of double glazing and gas central heating. Located in a pleasant cul-de-sac on the sought after Riverpoint estate this attractive property briefly comprises, reception hall, lounge with feature fireplace, fitted kitchen diner, 2 double bedrooms (master with en-suite shower room), family bathroom, rear garden and off road parking.
OFFERS AROUND: £107,500
Viewing: 01902 633323

Princethorpe Road, Scholars Heath,
Willenhall Willenhall — NEW

Modern detached house, 3 bedrooms, master with en-suite & fitted wardrobes, central heating, double glazing, 15ft conservatory, 18ft lounge, fitted kitchen, hall, guest wc, family bathroom, integral garage, front drive & rear garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £174,950
Viewing: 01902 633323

Uplands Avenue, Willenhall
Willenhall

3 BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW, benefiting central heating, partial double glazing & no upward chain. Further comprising entrance porch, hall, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, verandah, garage, garden.
OFFERS AROUND: £125,000
Viewing: 01902 633323

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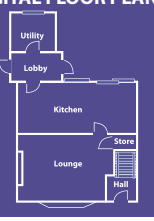

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City Road, Tividale

A superb opportunity to acquire this well presented and deceptively spacious three bedroom detached cottage, situated in a quiet cul de sac in a popular residential neighbourhood with easy access to Motorway networks. This impressive property offers a spacious layout with a high standard of accommodation and would make a comfortable family home. Briefly comprising of Lounge, Dining room, Modern fitted kitchen, three good size bedrooms, Luxury fitted bathroom, Cellar, Garage, Large elevated rear garden, Dg and Gch. No Dss.

£895 pcm

Holy Hedge Road, West Brom — NEW

A superbly appointed and stylishly presented four bedroom Victorian semidetached property, . This impressive property boasts a spacious layout and finished to a high which requires internal viewing to appreciate the level of accommodation which briefly comprises of Reception hallway, Two reception rooms, Spacious fitted kitchen, Four good size bedrooms, Family bathroom, Private rear garden, Driveway with ample parking, Garage, Dg and Gch. No pets or Dss

£850 pcm

Darvel Road, Willenhall

THREE bedroom extended link detached family home having the benefit of fitted intruder alarm, double glazing & gas central heating. The well maintained property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, kitchen diner, utility room, three bedrooms, re-fitted family bathroom with shower, garage, off road parking for 3 vehicles and rear garden.

£650 pcm

Hurst Lane, Tipton

Delightfull 3 bedroom town house located in an ever popluar development sedgley mews. The property benefits from having 3 double sized bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, fitted kitchen with applliancies, spacious lounge fitted with laminate flooring, downstairs w/c, family bathroom and master bedroom with en suite shower and toilet. Viewing highly reccomended

£650 pcm

Oxford Way, Foxs Hollow, Tipton — NEW

Modern 3 Storey End Town House. Gas Central Heating, upvc double glazing & briefly comprising reception hall, 2 guest cloakrooms, lounge, kitchen built in oven/hob, dining area, study room / possible 4th bedroom, 3 bedrooms, en suite shower room, family bathroom, driveway, garage, rear garden. Part Furnished.

£650 pcm

Victoria Street, Willenhall — NEW

A modern three bedroom two storey town house situated in a popular location just a short distance from Willenhall tow centre and with easy access to motorway networks. The property offers a spacious layout and high standard of accommodation and briefly comprises of Lounge, Modern fitted Kitchen, Guest Wc, Three good size bedrooms with en suite, Rear garden, Dg and Gch. No Dss

£595 pcm

Pool Hayes Lane, Willenhall — NEW

A well presented spacious three bedroom semi detached property, situated in a popular residential location close to excellent local amenities including schools of all grades. The property is in excellent condition throughout and would make a comfortable family home. To include Lounge/Diner , Modern fitted kitchen, Utility, Three good size bedrooms, Family bathroom, Garage, Private rear garden, Dg and Gch. No pets, No Dss

£575 pcm

Martin Street, Parkfields, Wolverhampton — NEW

A well presented three bedroom traditional bay window terrace situated i a well established popular location the property has enjoyed extensive refurbishment throughout and offers a high standard of accommodation which requires internal viewing to fully appreciate. Briefly comprising of , Lounge, Dining room, Modern well equipped fitted kitchen, Refitted downstairs bathroom, Three good size bedrooms, Private rear garden, Dg and Gch. Dss considered.

£525 pcm

Greencroft, Bilston

A 3 bedroom end terraced house having central heating and double glazing. Briefly comprising reception hall with guest cloaks/WC off, lounge, fitted kitchen with gas cooker, 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC and enclosed rear garden. A garage is available, with rent to be discussed. Viewing 0121 525 5520.

£525 pcm

Hawksford Cresent, Low Hill, Wolverhampton

A well presented three bedroom traditional bay fronted semi detached property, situated in a quiet Cul de sac this impressive property has enjoyed extensive refurbishment and internal viewing is essential to fully appreciate the level of accommodation which briefly comprises of Lounge, Refitted modern fitted kitchen, Three good size bedrooms, Refitted bathroom, Private rear garden, Dg and Gch.

£500 pcm

Colledge Court, High Street, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton — NEW

A well appointed modern top floor apartment set in superbly maintained communal gardens next to the desirable Tettenhall village green which boast s excellent local amenities including local shops and restaurants. The property briefly comprises of Lounge with open plan kitchen, Double bedroom, Bathroom, Garage and secure parking. No Dss or Pets.

£500 pcm

Toll End Road, Tipton — NEW

Improved / Renovated Middle Terrace having upvc double glazing, gas central heating. Spacious accommodation & briefly comprising, lounge, inner hallway, cellar, sitting room, new fitted kitchen with built in oven/hob, utility area, 2 bedrooms, new bathroom with shower, enclosed yard & rear garden. Viewing 0121 522 3733...

£500 pcm

Bloxwich Road South, Willenhall — NEW

Luxury 2 bedroom spacious apartments having the benefit of UPVC double & triple glazing, gas central heating & intruder alarm. These splendid larger than average properties briefly comprise, reception hall, good size lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen with intergrated appliances, two bedrooms (ensuite shower room to master), bathroom/wc & allocated parking spaces.

£495 pcm

High Street, Bilston — NEW

A spacious two bedroom modern first floor apartment situated in a popular location with easy access to motorway networks and offers a spacious layout and briefly comprises of Lounge, Two good size bedrooms, Fitted kitchen, Bathroom, Dg and gch. Inclusive of utility bills. No dss

£495 pcm

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Elizabeth Mews, Tividale

A well presented 2 bedroom middle town house with gas fire central heating and double glazing. The property comprises :- reception hall, fitted kitchen with built in oven, hob, extractor, washing machine, dishwasher, fridge and freezer, lounge with staircase to first floor, 2 bedrooms , rear with built in storage cupboard, bathroom with shower over bath, wash basin & wc. allocated car parking space and enclosed rear garden. View 0121 522 3733

£495 pcm

Bloxwich Road South, Willenhall

Luxury 2 bedroom spacious apartments having the benefit of UPVC double & triple glazing, gas central heating & fitted intruder alarm. These splendid larger than average properties briefly comprise, reception hall, good size lounge, fitted breakfast kitchen with intergrated appliances, two bedrooms (ensuite shower room to master), bathroom/wc & allocated parking spaces.

£495 pcm

Westfield Road, Bilston — NEW

A well presented semi detached property. The property offers a good layout and briefly comprises of Reception Hallway, Lounge, Modern fitted kitchen, Two good size bedrooms, Family bathroom, Laundrey Room, Outhouse, Private rear garden, Dg and Gch. Unfurnished.

£495 pcm

Corporation Street, Wednesbury

A well presented two bedroom traditional terrace. Situated in a popular location close to excellent local amenities and with easy access to M6 Motorway networks. Briefly comprising of Two reception rooms, Fitted Kitchen,Two double bedrooms,Family bathroom Dg and Gch.

£475 pcm

Bonneville Close, Tipton

Modern top floor appartment. Security entrance door, gas cetnral heating, fully fitted kitchen with oven , hob, Lounge with 2 juliet balcony overlookin the canal ,2 bedrooms, bathroom with electric shower, Laminated throughout, off road parking.

£475 pcm

Newells Drive, Tipton

Modern Semi Detached having upvc double glazing and gas central heating. Briefly comprising reception hall, lounge,kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, driveway, front and rear garden. The property comes unfurnished, No DSS.

£475 pcm

All Saints Way, West Bromwich — NEW

The property comprises an attractive two storey maisonette having the benefit of part central heating and double glazing. The accommodation includes two bedrooms, lounge, attractive fitted kitchen, bathroom/wc, communal grounds, drying area, car parking. Fully Furnished. Viewing 0121 525 5520

£450 pcm

Cook Street, Wednesbury

The property comprises a modern Third floor appartment haveing the benefit of electric heating and double glazing. The accommodation includes two bedrooms, bathroom/wc, hall, lounge, fitted kitchen having oven and hob, allocated parking space. Viewing 0121 525 5520

£450 pcm

Tipps Stone Close, Tipton

A well presented modern one bedroom apartment, Situated in a popular location close to excellent local amenities and with easy access to motorway networks. The property offers a good standard of accommodation an briefly comprises of Lounge, Modern fitted kitchen, Bathroom and double bedroom.

£425 pcm

Star Street, Bradmore, Wolverhampton — NEW

A modern one bedroom first floor apartment situated in a popular location just a short distance from Bantock Park and close to City centre the property offers a good standard off accommodation and briefly comprises of Lounge, Modern fitted kitchen, Double bedroom, Bathroom, GCH and Parking, No DSS £425

£425 pcm

Crankhall Lane, Wednesbury

A first floor 2/3 bedroom flat with a spacious layout and easy access to motorway networks. Briefly comprising of Lounge, Kitchen, Good size bedrooms, Family bathroom, No Dss

£395 pcm

Moreville Croft, Bilston

Well presented first floor apartment on popular residentail development. having double glazing and electric heating the property comprises hallway, lounge, kitchen, tow bedrooms, bathroom, parking space

£375 pcm

Westbourne Court, Westbourne Road, Wednesbury

A two bedroom first floor flat comprising reception hall with staircase to first floor, lounge, fitted kitchen with electric cooker, bathroom with bath,wash basin and w/c. The accomodation has electric heating, blinds to windows and a car parking space to the rear. Viewing 0121 505 3533

£375 pcm

Carneige Avenue, Tipton — NEW

A modern ground floor studio apartment, set in a well established neighbourhood with easy access to motorways and rail networks. The property is a good standard of decoration and briefly comprises of Lounge/Bedroom, Fitted kitchen, bathroom and communal garden.

£325 pcm

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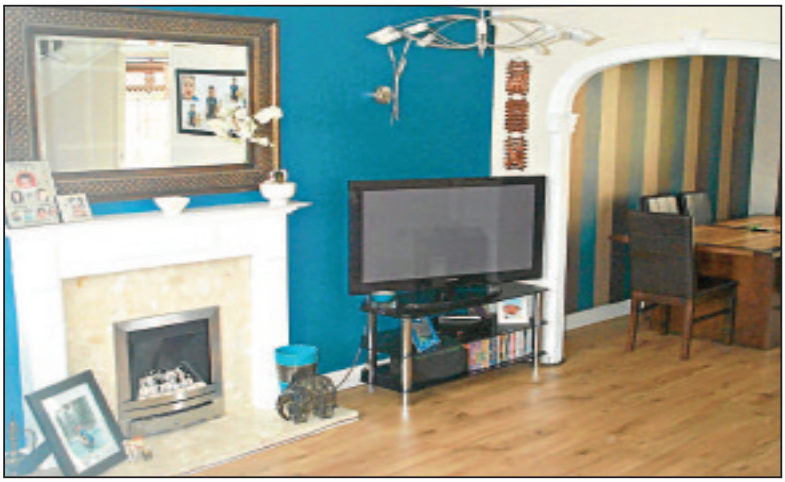

The well-maintained property includes a large lounge with archway leading to the rear dining room

Estate agent Fraser Wood is handling the sale of this link-detached home in Honeybourne Way, Willenhall

Willenhall home priced £169,950

THIS link-detached house in Honeybourne Way, Kingfisher Estate, Willenhall, is for sale with a price tag of £169.950.

The well-maintained property is located on a popular estate just of the main A462 Clarkes Lane, providing access to local services and amenities including shops in Willenhall town centre some three quarters of a mile to the west, and Junction 10 of the M6 just over a mile to the east towards Walsall.

Set behind a lawned front garden and brick paved driveway providing off-road parking, internal viewing is recommended to appreciate the gas centrally heated and uPvc double glazed accommodation.

On the ground floor a reception hall leads to a guest cloakroom off with low flush WC and wash handbasin.

The front loungeof the property measures 15ft 4in by 13ft 6in with an archway at the rear leading to the dining room, 10ft by 7ft 8in.

From the dining room sliding patio doors leads into a conservatory measuring 10ft by 9ft.

Automatic

The 10ft by 7ft 4in kitchen, with a useful walk-in storage cupboard off, has a range of fitted base and wall mounted cupboards, rolltop work surfaces and a one and a half bowl stainless steel sink unit. Other features include a Stoves electric double fan assisted oven and Leisure Rangemaster four ring gas hob with extractor hood, integral fridge and freezer.

Plumbing is avaiable for and automatic washing machine.

On the first floor of the house are three bedrooms and a tiled bathroom with refitted white suite consisting of panelled bath with shower over, pedestal wash handbasin, low flush WC and heated towel rail.

Outside is an attached garage, with a gated pedestrian walkway to the side of the property leading to a mainly lawned rear garden with coniferous borders and paved seating area.

Call the Willenhall branch of Fraser Wood on 01902 367367 for more information.

Three-bedroom house, £129,000

A TRADITIONAL three bedroomed home set in a popular area north of Wolverhampton has come onto the market for offers in the region of £129,000.

Number 67 Probert Road in Oxley offers well-presented spacious accommodation, majority uPVC double glazing, radiator central heating, a rear garden, garage and off-road parking.

Rees Page estate agents are managing the sale and recommending internal viewing of this house, which has no upward chain.

Entry is via an arched porchway with a part leaded door into a reception hall, which has an understairs cupboard.

The 13ft 1in x 11ft 6in lounge faces the front while the separate dining room has been extended and features an electric fire and surround and double doors to a 9ft 1in x 8ft 6in sun room.

67 Probert Road is situated in Oxley, Wolverhampton

In the 12ft 6in x 7ft 11in kitchen, there's a range of wall and base units, rolled-edge worksurfaces, sink, drainer and mixer tap, electric cooker point and plumbing for a washing machine. Upstairs, there are three bedrooms leading off the landing. The main bedroom measures 13ft 8in x 9ft 2in and includes a range of built in wardrobes and storage to one wall.

The second bedroom measures 10ft 6in x 9ft 6in and includes built in wardrobes and a dressing table to one wall while there's also a third bedroom and a part-tiled bathroom, which has a pedestal wash basin, panel with shower over and screen and WC.

Outside, the house is set back from the road behind a hedged foregarden with a small lawn and flowerbed and gated driveway leading to a garage with double doors and a rear lobby area containing a sink and drainer, boiler and door to the kitchen.

To the rear is what the agent describes as a "delightful and well established" private garden stocked with a variety of shrubs, trees and plants and featuring an ornamental pond, lawn, patio and greenhouse.

For more information or to arrange a viewing, call 01902 577775.

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MOTORING NEWS AND REVIEWS
CHRONICLE MOTORING
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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

Vauxhall finds answers to electric range anxiety

By Ian Donaldson

YOU NEED the brainpower of a supercomputer to work out whether an electric car would save you money or really help the planet turn greener.

For starters, they're not cheap and may not even be all that climate friendly to run if the electricity they need comes from a coal-fired power station, belching out carbon dioxide like there's no tomorrow.

Even so, there's a growing market for cars that add a green sheen to the business of motoring, In the right circumstances they might even start to make sense.

Whatever the accountants might say, there's no stopping the car makers in their rush to turn green and the Vauxhall Ampera is simply the latest in a growing line of cars with boosted battery power.

It might, however, be the most sensible one so far. There are basically three ways of giving a car some electrical eco-cred. The obvious one is to replace the petrol or diesel engine with a great big battery and be done with it.

The trouble is that you'll forever be worrying about the car's range. Fear of getting stuck miles from home in the dark, with the battery flat and needing an eight hour charge has helped coin a new motoring term: range anxiety.

The second way to burnish your eco-halo is to go the Toyota Prius route, using a conventional petrol engine most of the time but backed by a biggish battery that helps out when it can. Most of the time you'll be on petrol power, but more than two million owners worldwide have succumbed to the charms of a Prius.

Then there's a third way, as found in the car featured here. The Ampera has a huge battery (actually, lots of smaller packs running safely out of harm's way down the spine of the car) which will take it up to 50 miles on a good day before a modest 1.4 litre petrol engine from an Astra takes over.

That way, says Vauxhall, most Amperas won't ever need to turn their petrol engines on because most of us drive no more than 40 miles a day.

So, no range anxiety (you can fill the Ampera's petrol tank like any other car, after all) and no road tax or congestion charges and a modest five per cent hit on company car tax. Oh, and an electric fill up takes four hours from your home supply and costs about £1.

It even looks like a rather smart conventional car (it's built in the States and sales here are forecast as modest) with a comfy interior, decent boot and nothing apart from its badges to denote you as a green eco warrior.

Push the go-faster pedal to the floor and the Astra-sized Ampera scurries off with just a bit of tyre noise and reaches 30mph as quickly as a hot hatch. It will touch 60mph in around nine seconds (a respectable figure) but is limited to 100mph to save battery power.

Which is another way of saying that slower is much better with the Ampera, if you want to go electric for as long as possible. Driving normally on the press introduction (around a very flat Amsterdam) my car ran out of current at 38 miles and the petrol motor kicked in seamlessly to take over.

An impressive array of instruments keeps the driver informed

An impressive performance, I thought, but you need to read on before placing your order for an Ampera, due here in early 2012.

It might use cheap electricity but the car will cost £28,995 and that's after a £5,000 government grant has been deducted.

There are an awful lot of fine conventionally powered cars available at that price, so you'll need some eco fire in your belly to favour an Ampera.

Longer term, running costs should beat a more ordinary machine and there's an eight year or 100,000 mile warranty on the battery.

And, unlike owners of a purely electrical car, you won't need a second vehicle on standby for longer runs.

Even so, it looks an expensive way to save money.

But if you're tempted and can afford it, the Ampera makes a convincing move into the

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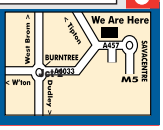

Fleet show boosts LPG

FUEL COMPANY Autogas has seen a surge in interest from fleet managers following the conversion of a Mazda 6 (pictured above) to run on LPG.

Autogas and Mazda invited fleet managers to get behind the wheel of the converted Mazda and discover how they can run a greener fleet and save up to 40 per cent on running costs.

Autogas key accounts manager, Paul Oxford, said interest in the LPG vehicle exceeded expectations: "We have been working with Mazda for several months to offer fleet customers an alternative to petrol and diesel fuelled models, but this was the first time we had showcased the Mazda 6 LPG to potential customers.

Network

"Many fleet managers took up the offer of a test drive and Mazda received significant interest from people requesting more information on how LPG could benefit their fleet. Immediately after a test drive, one fleet customer confirmed there and then that he would be adding the Mazda 6 LPG to his fleet list."

The car is fitted with the latest LPG technology – the Prins Liquimax system which uses existing petrol injectors to inject the LPG. The system is only available on the Mazda 6. However as more vehicles are approved it will allow LPG to be fitted to the latest direct-injection petrol engines.

The most attractive benefit for fleet users is cost. As LPG sells at an average 77.3 pence per litre, compared to 135.7 pence for petrol and 139.7 pence for diesel, savings can add up to 40 per cent.

Liquefied Petroleum Gas, or LPG, has an established, easily accessible refuelling network and is available from 1,400 refuelling points up and down the country. Most Autogas Limited LPG refuelling sites are on Shell forecourts on motorways and major trunk roads.

"When much is being made of emerging alternative fuel technology, which can have its limitations, it's worth reminding people that LPG is a here-and-now fuel which is used by over 7 million drivers in Europe. In fact globally it is the third most popular road fuel after petrol and diesel," Mr Oxford said.

"What drivers really like is the fact that it's the same as driving a petrol car with no compromise on vehicle range and performance. Given over 10 per cent of UK forecourts now retail autogas means drivers don't have to go out of their way to refuel. To make life easier we provide a free to download satnav site locator on our website"

Damaging

The environmental benefits will also be attractive to fleet managers.

"Vehicles running on LPG produce far less carbon dioxide than equivalent petrol or diesel vehicles, but they also emit far fewer of the other harmful emissions such as oxides of nitrogen and microscopic particles, known as PM10s, which are found in diesel and petrol and have a damaging effect on the environment," Mr Oxford said.

He said European tests showed vehicles running on petrol could produce up to 20.3 per cent more carbon dioxide than those running on LPG. LPG vehicles also emitted fewer oxides of nitrogen or small particle emissions.

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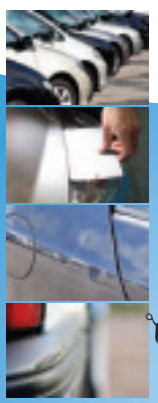

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Take the 20p tyre test

Pressures should be checked in line with the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations

Healthy tyres for happy holidays

TYRESAFE is urging motorists to inspect their tyres before heading off on holiday to avoid a tyre-related "wash out".

In pre-holiday checks, drivers should include making sure tyres have adequate tread depth, ensuring tyres are properly inflated for the load being carried (including the spare) and making sure the general condition of the tyres is good.

Drivers failing to make these checks are more likely to be involved in a tyre-related incident, potentially ruining their summer break, warns TyreSafe.

"Whether you're heading overseas in your car, or staying in the UK, correct tyre maintenance is vital to reduce the risk of being stranded by the roadside or involved in an accident as a result of a tyre related issue," says Stuart Jackson, chairman, TyreSafe.

"Pre-travel checks which can prevent such problems are simple to do and only take a few minutes to perform."

As well reducing the chance of an accident, other benefits of correct tyre care include longer tyre life and reduced fuel bills.

Expense

When tyres are under-inflated their rolling resistance increases and more fuel is required. One TyreSafe member estimates that when tyres are under-inflated by just six psi, or around 20 per cent, fuel bills rise by three per cent.

Furthermore, under-inflated tyres cause unnecessary expense for drivers as they wear out much faster and need replacing sooner. When run at 80 per cent of recommended pressure, it is estimated tyre life falls to around 75 per cent. At 60 per cent pressure, tyre life falls to just 35 per cent.

When checking pressures, drivers should ensure tyres are inflated to the correct levels for the load carried. Many vehicles require higher tyre pressures when carrying extra passengers or heavy items such as suitcases, bikes or roof boxes. Correct tyre pressures can be found either in the driver's handbook, inside the fuel filler cap, or on a plate on the driver's door sill. Alternatively, iPhone users can download the free TyreSafe app which gives drivers the correct tyre pressure settings for their vehicle.

As important as tyre pressure is tread depth. As Jackson explains, TyreSafe has devised a simple way for drivers to tell whether their tyres have enough tread.

Adequate

"The British weather is renowned for its unpredictable nature, so tyres need adequate tread depth to be able to cope with wet roads in the event of a sudden downpour. By visiting the TyreSafe website, drivers can see how to take the 20p test to see if their tyres have adequate tread depth to keep them safe and legal," adds Jackson.

For more information visit www.tyresafe.org.

How to check your tyre pressures

1. Check your tyre pressures at least once a month or before a long journey.
2. Pressures should be checked against the manufacturer's recommended level. This can be found in the vehicle handbook and on a plate inside the fuel filler flap or on the driver's door sill.
3. Check the pressure when tyres are cold (i.e. when you have travelled less than two miles).
4. If you are carrying a full load of passengers or luggage or towing a trailer or caravan, tyre pressures should be increased in line with the manufacturer's recommendations. Details can be found in the vehicle handbook.
5. Ensure a reliable and accurate pressure gauge is used.
6. Check the pressure in all four tyres and the spare.
7. While checking pressures, give the tyre a visual inspection. Remove stones and other objects embedded in the tread. Look out for any bulges, lumps or cuts.
8. If you are unsure about tyre pressure or condition go to an approved fitting centre and speak to the experts.

Drivers are much more likely to experience roadside misery if they fail to check their tyres before heading off on holiday

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*Not available on Expression, ES, ES Tech models. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 30 September 2011. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. ^Customer deposit shown after deduction of Vauxhall contribution.

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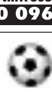

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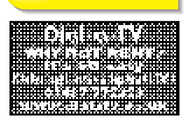

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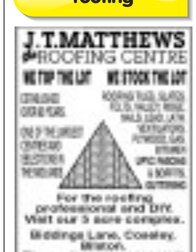

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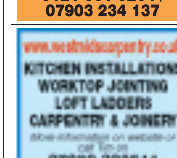

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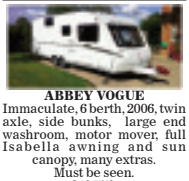

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public & legal notices

Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning
Representations can be made online, email: planningservices@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG.
Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.
Please note: Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995

11/0852/FL
Walsall Housing Group
FOR: Proposed 33 no. new dwellings, 18 no. 2 bed apartments, 2 no. 2 bed disabled apartments, 3 no. 2 bed houses and 10 no. 3 bed houses, with new access drive, parking court, external works and landscaping.
AT: LAND AT THE JUNCTION OF HIGH STREET AND OGLEY ROAD, BROWNHILLS, WS8 6DW

*** 11/0825/FL**
New Horizons Community Enterprise
FOR: Change of use from 'Specialist office to meet local service provisions to D2 use as a Childrens and Family Mental Health Service and ancillary offices plus creation of an ancillary 20 space car park on land to the rear of Abbotts Street/ Ryle Street/ St. Davids Place/ Benton Crescent.
AT: CANALSIDE HOUSE, ABBOTTS STREET, BLOXWICH, WALSALL, WS3 3AZ

11/0744/FL
Mr A Waraich
FOR: Refurbishment of existing industrial units including extensions and alterations and subdivision.
AT: ALVAR BUSINESS PARK, STRAIGHT ROAD, WILLENHALL, WV12 5QY

11/0864/TE
Mr Andreas Marinou
FOR: Time Extension on planning application for 08/0786/FL for change of use from Retail (A1) to Hot Food Takeaway (A5).
AT: 33 HIGH STREET, BROWNHILLS, WALSALL, WS3 4LX

11/0859/FL
Mr Sorrinder Singh
FOR: Change of use to A5 Hot food takeaway.
AT: 1 BLAKENALL HEATH, WALSALL, WS3 1HL

Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990. (Section 73).
Applications Affecting a Conservation Area and/or Listed Building

11/0838/AD
Lloyds Banking Group
FOR: Erection of 3 no. illuminated ATM collars and 1 no. illuminated poster.
AT: 121 HIGH STREET, BLOXWICH, WALSALL, WS3 3JG

11/0869/FL
The West Brom
FOR: New shopfront and new power assisted entrance door.
AT: GREYBURY HOUSE, BRIDGE STREET, WALSALL, WS1 1JY

The application marked * does not accord with the provisions of the development plan for the area.

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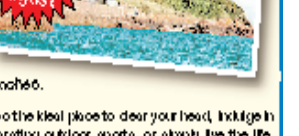

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In addition to acres of clean, white sand, the island has a number of world-class attractions that will appeal to the younger crowd.

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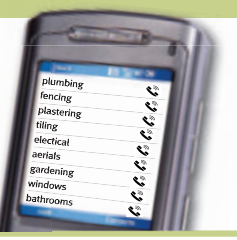

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Jon Macken is congratulated for his goal against Wolves

Creative Saddlers give Wolves a run for their money

WALSALL 2 WOLVES 3

WALSALL are coming together nicely both and on off the pitch in the view of manager Dean Smith.

The Saddlers certainly enjoyed plenty of positives from this friendly despite the 3-2 defeat – and if the bigger picture is that of a club continuing to heal itself after last season's traumas, then Smith believes it is bang on course.

"If we want to be successful then we have to have that positive attitude around the place," says Smith.

"It's not just the players and the management, it's the whole club. We want to reach out to the public and get back to where we all want to be.

"There were a lot of positives. I was particularly pleased with the first-half performance. Pre-season games always become a little disjointed in the second half because of the changes, but the main thing was to get an hour into 11 players.

"It was a proper match and the new boys all blended well. I would say we are where we want to be at this stage."

It was a more familiar face who provided the Saddlers' highlight of the game last Tuesday. Jon Macken scored a stunning first equaliser with a 25-yard rising drive, and his striker partner Will Grigg added a second leveller with sharp opportunism.

Frailties

"Jon scored some great goals towards the end of last season but that was special," said Smith. "He's a fantastic striker and his partnership with Grigg is encouraging for us.

"Grigg's game is going from strength to strength and he scores a lot of goals."

Saddlers were more than a match for their Premier League visitors during a competitive first half and Andy Butler was imperious.

WALSALL (4-4-2): Walker (Grof 60); Westlake (Beevers 60), Butler, Smith (Lancashire 60), Sadler; Chambers (Taundry 60), Hurst (Gnakpa 60), Peterlin (Forde 85), Nicholls (Bowerman 71); Macken (Jarvis 60), Grigg (Paterson 71). Subs not used: Butlin, Jones.

WOLVES (4-4-2): Hennessey (Ikeme 60); Stearman (Jarvis 60), Batth (Johnson HT), Craddock (Berra 60), Elokobi (Kostrna 60), Foley (Milijas HT), Henry (Davis 60), Kightly (Hammill 60), Hunt (Ward HT); Ebanks-Blake (Keogh 60), Griffiths (Doyle HT).

Attendance: 5,065 (2,610 Wolves fans).

LEISURE LEAGUE LEAGUES

Allstars topple leaders

WALSALL Allstars blew the Monday Premier Division title wide open as Matt Barratt's man of the match display helped to down table toppers Vention Wolves.

Vention now only lead on goal difference following AVFC 06's battling 1-0 win over CHAFC.

Bloxwich Youth also took full advantage with a 2-0 triumph against Celtegg.

Wednesfield Boys wrapped up the First Division title as Scott Sandland orchestrated a fine 5-2 win over FC Basil Fawlty.

Convincing

It was Scalers FC who stole the show as Andy Grocott starred in a 13-1 rout of Inch Wanderers.

Sallyjoddler preserved their perfect start to the Thursday 6 a side league, and did so in some style with a convincing 5-1 win over Delves Parafins.

Shelfield Thursday's season is starting to take shape as Nathan Parker proved the difference in a 2-0 win over Youth Harted.

Youngsters in Holland

Four Football League clubs including Walsall will are taking apprentice players to Holland in a tour that has been organised by League Football Education.

LFE'S pre-season tour sees players from Walsall, Watford, Scunthorpe and Wycombe in temporary residence at top Dutch sides ADO Den Haag, FC Utrecht, Feyenoord and NEC Nijmegen until August 6.

Walsall's head of youth, Neil Woods, said: "This tour provides our youth team players with a unique opportunity to sample a different type of football and experience playing and training on mainland Europe."

Dream of Games glory lifts marathon friends

"TO make an Olympics in your home country – I don't think there's anything better than that. It's never going to happen again in our lifetime"

Former Walsall teacher Phil Nicholls is a runner used to seizing the moment in a race and his words, said with equal measure of excitement and determination, suggest he is ready to do the same with London 2012 on the horizon.

His objective is clear – now he has less than 12 months to turn it into a reality and earn a place on Team GB.

walsallchronicle
@expressandstar.co uk

The Tipton Harrier has enjoyed a successful long distance running career and twice made the World Cross Country Championships.

But the PE teacher has decided to switch classes and move up to marathon running to try to book a place alongside the world's elite next summer.

"It (the Olympics) is on my mind and all my friends' minds," said the affable 27-year-old, who works at the Coseley School having started his teaching at Shelfield Sports College, in Walsall.

"I knew over the shorter distances it would be harder to make the team because of Mo Farah running really well and he's really raised the bar.

Easier

"I could have stayed at the shorter distances but I'm 27 and it's now or never."

Nicholls showed his potential in May when he won his first marathon – in Edinburgh – nudging Tipton team-mate and 2009 winner Martin Williams, a Walsall policeman, into second.

The duo train together and Williams also has his sights on making the GB line-up when the Olympics comes around.

"Phil's a good mate and he drags me along," added Williams, who represented Scotland in the Commonwealth Games last year.

"I took athletics up quite late when I was in my mid-20s where Phil has done it from a kid and come up through the ranks.

"I know if I can keep up with Phil then I can keep up with most people in the country. It's tough but you know there's guys out there doing it, and that helps. I know Phil will be out training at six o'clock in the morning so if I don't get up and do it I know I will have dropped that bit behind and, the next time we run together, he'll be off in the distance, and vice versa."

Williams added: "People up and down the country are prepared to make those sacrifices because things like Olympics, you can't buy that success. You've got a limited amount of time to do something with your body and you've got to make the most of it, so that's what drives us to get up in the morning."

And Nicholls also reaps the rewards of the pair running together as he taps into his pal's extra experience in running 26 miles-plus.

"It was nice having Martin there in Edinburgh because that was his seventh or eighth marathon and he knows the ropes," said Nicholls.

"I knew I was in shape because of the training I'd done and I thought we'd run around the 2hr 15/16min mark, which we would have done had it not been for the wind because the weather was horrendous.

"As soon as we hit the wind at 18/19 miles it knocked our time back by four or five minutes. I've no doubt I would have run 2hr 15min had it not been for the elements, but that's what happens and that's part of running."

The frustration in Nicholls' voice is clear, but that fixation with time is not without reason. If they are to make their dreams come true, the duo must achieve a good qualifying mark with only three GB spots up for grabs.

Nicholls added: "I think we both need to nail a good marathon in the autumn and put a time down in the 2hr 14/15min area and then look at the London Marathon in April, which will be the trial race. I think that's going to be the race where it will be do-or-die, you need to look at running 2hr 12min because if you don't then you might as well not race in the Olympics.

"This autumn will be the stepping stone and then get some hard training in over new year, hopefully stay injury-free and look to race hard in London.

"We're both in the top 10 nationally."

Walsall policeman Martin Williams, left, and Phil Nicholls train for the Olympics

CRICKET

Clayton's century is backbone of triumph

RUSHALL 1ST X1 279- 5 BEAT WOLVERHAMPTON DANES 275-6 BY 5 WKTS

ON A warm sunny afternoon at Carter Park Rushall won a memorable high scoring game on a good batting surface.

After winning the toss and asking visitors Wolverhampton to bat, Rushall picked up an early wicket with Alan Dunn clean bowling Max Walker.

This proved to be their only early success as Wolverhampton piled on the runs.

Opener James Turner (68) and Jack Lewis (126) were Rushall's chief tormentors and Danes closed their innings on a mamouth 275-6 from their 50 overs.

Del King was the pick of Rushall's bowlers, taking 3-81.

In reply Rushall made an impressive start putting on 116 for the first wicket before Matty Johnson was dismissed for 20.

Del King and Ian Clayton then took Rushall's score to 201 before King was lbw for 31.

Opener Ian Clayton was Rushall's star performer, smashing 25 boundaries in a swash-buckling 140, eventually falling with the score at 221.

With work still to do skipper Andy Beech (27 not out) & Bob Plant 24 not out saw Rushall through to a memorable win.

RUSHALL 2ND X1 182-6 DREW WITH WOLVERHAMPTON COURTS 196-4

Rushall 2nds came close to an unlikely win with a battling performance.

With only ten players, Rushall were dealt another blow when a collision between Jack Clayton and skipper Andy Callaghan effectively reduced Rushall to only eight outfielders.

Clayton could play no further part having been knocked out cold & Callaghan could only watch on with damaged ribs.

Despite this handicap Rushall restricted their hosts to 196-4, with Paul Hopkinson taking 2-35 from 15 overs.

In reply, Rushall lost early wickets and slumped to 79-6 with 20 overs to face.

Then an unbeaten stand of 103 for the seventh wicket nearly achieved an unlikely win. with young Nick Dennant smashing 73 not out and skipper Andy Callaghan 18 not out.

Phil Dennant earlier hit 26.

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COPPER POUNDS 2012 OLYMPIC MARATHON BEAT Page 59

MACKEN'S STILL MAGIC AGAINST WOLVES Page 59

Rising star Ejiro Okoro meets her mentor Dame Kelly

Ejiro Okoro

ATHLETE Ejiro Okoro from Walsall went to Dame Kelly Holmes' home town of Tonbridge, Kent, to take part in an Aviva sponsored training camp with her mentor before tomorrow's Aviva UK Championships & Trials in Birmingham.

Ejiro has been a member of the Aviva supported 'On Camp with Kelly' mentoring and education initiative for talented young middle distance athletes since 2008.

The camp took place at the excellent sports facilities at Tonbridge School and included the 20 'On Camp with Kelly' athletes devising and organising a training session for 100 young athletes aged 11-18 from local athletics clubs and schools.

Afternoon

The OCWK athletes took the youngsters through a number of training drills and fun games in order to educate them about the sport.As well as leading this session, Ejiro carried out her own training, took part in two tough pilates sessions and was also able to benefit from mentoring from Dame Kelly, and sports massage.Ejiro said: "The training session with the young athletes was really productive as they learnt about new types of training. It was good to put out organisational skills into practice and organise the session and I also found the media training very useful."

Ejiro is looking forwarding to competing at the Aviva UK Championships & Trials, which run from Friday afternoon to Sunday this weekend, where she hopes to improve her 800m personal best.

Dame Kelly said: "I am very pleased to invite some of the 'On Camp with Kelly' athletes to train in my home town and it was great to meet up with Ejiro. I believe that it is very important that the athletes I mentor with the support of Aviva through 'On Camp with Kelly' give something back to the sport and pass on their knowledge to the next generation of athletes as they have done this week."

For more information about the Aviva sponsored 'On Camp with Kelly' initiative visit oncampwithkelly.co.uk.

Dame Kelly Holmes

Worthwhile lessons for Wood from Scholars

WALSALL Wood started their pre-season friendly programme with three games in four days.

They kicked off on Tuesday 19th with the visit of Chasetown. The visitors had been in action beforehand and were initially much sharper, however it took them until the 39th minute when Mark Branch opened the scoring.

Former Wood player Craig Taylor-Boyce wrapped things up on 72 minutes to seal a hard fought 2-0 victory for the Scholars.

Thursday, July 21, saw Sutton Coldfield Town at Oak Park.

An own goal followed a corner after 8 minutes and Mark Bellingham profited from a ricochet on 12 minutes to score No.2 from an almost impossible angle wide on the right.

Wood gave a good account of themselves and an intricate move on the right on 90 minutes ended with the ball being laid back to Michael Murray 30 yards out and his cannonball effort (an early candidate for goal of the season) rocketed into the net off the left post.

Reserves

After Evo-Stik Premier and Evo-Stik North opposition it was Midland Alliance Willenhall Town who were the opponents last Saturday.

Two goals by Ian Purvey on 37 and78 minutes saw Wood in complete control.

An83rd minute near post flick by Harry Rickus from a right wing corner reduced the arrears, but the home side comfortably saw out time to record their first victory of the season.

Yesterday's visit to Atherstone will be followed on Saturday, July 30, by a rare double header at Oak Park with Wood Reserves taking on newly formed Bromsgrove Sporting Reserves, kick off 1.30pm, followed by the first team game at 3.30pm.

Tuesday evening, August 2, sees Shepshed at Oak Park.

● Chasetown FC Girls section are currently looking for players for the coming season for a new under 11s girls team (school years 5 and 6).

Previous experience in a team is not essential, but they will need bags of enthusiasm and energy. C

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SMITH'S HAPPY IN DEFEAT TO VILLA POWER

DEAN Smith shrugged off a punishing workout against a slick Aston Villa to keep his sights firmly on readying Walsall for their League One start.

Forty-eight hours after a full-bodied friendly against Wolves, the Saddlers were back at the Banks's Stadium again trying to make up a two division gap before succumbing to a 3-1 defeat.

In truth, Villa gave Smith's squad a more gruelling test, especially in a first-half in which the Premier League side fielded the line-up new boss Alex McLeish would most likely pick if his own team's campaign began today.

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

But Smith paid no regard to the result safe in the knowledge his team won't be meeting players of Villa's quality each week.

"This was a second game in three days against Premier League opponents and it was probably a little bit too much for my squad to cope with," said the Walsall boss.

"They are a long way ahead of us in terms of the calibre of player we are facing. Darren Bent was the scorer of their first goal and the last time I saw him he was scoring the first goal for England, so we won't be too disappointed by the outcome.

"But I did say to the boys at half time 'OK, they are a good side and they have taken us apart at times in the first half. But give me that aggression you've still got left and go out and win the second half' – and that's what we did." Smith again utilised his bench extensively, giving a start to a cluster of players who had begun Tuesday's match on the bench.

Excellence

"Primarily this week has all been about a fitness exercise and getting game-time for every player," he said.

"We've no injuries, the players are progressing and that's what matters.

"But we finished the match with our front four all products of our Centre of Excellence and that has got to mean this club is doing something right.

"It has been a hard couple of games for my lads though.

Smith added: "To play Tuesday, recover Wednesday and then play again Thursday against Premier League teams is a big ask for them.

"We had a lot of young lads out there playing against internationals."

George Bowerman nips in to head a consolation goal for Walsall

Kevan Hurst bends a free-kick around the Villa wall towards a flying Shay Given

Joy for George Bowerman, left

Golf club's venture to Wales is just wizard

WALSALL Golf Club's Gwynn Durrell could be forgiven for claiming 'I love it when a plan comes together' after his 'Captain's Away Day' went like clockwork.

Two splendid days were savoured at St Pierre, in south Wales, with the only minor blip being a mere two minutes of rain as the final group was leaving the 18th green on Sunday.

A 38-strong group of Walsall members did battle with the Mathern Course on Sunday, before locking horns with the renowned Old Course on Monday.

Winners of the four-ball competition at the course near Chepstow, Monmouthshire, on Sunday were: Richard Shaw, Roger Smith, Tim Davies and Colin Rose.

Honours 24 hours later went to Tim Behague, Dennis Paddock, Derek Shannon and Richard Bullock.

Countback

"It was a superb occasion," reflected Durrell. "I can't thank the golfers enough for supporting the 'away day'.

"The Mathern is continuing to develop as a golf course, while the Old Course never disappoints. The two days were fantastic."

Elsewhere at the Broadway venue, the Sven Cahlman was claimed by Martin Hunt on countback from Baron Allchurch.

Both carded net scores of 65, their gross returns being 71 and 80 respectively.

It was Hunt who took the prestigious title, however, by virtue of his better back nine score.

Casey swings £20k EGU's way

PAUL Casey has donated his £20,000 winnings from the inaugural PowerPlay Golf event at Celtic Manor to the English Golf Union in recognition of their help during his amateur career.

"I had great support from the EGU when I was coming through the ranks as a junior, so I am very happy to help them with their player development programme," he said.

"They have had tremendous success in recent years bringing through the best young talent."

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• Travelcard and Information Centres

Walsall - Walsall Bus Station, St Paul's Square
Birmingham - Unit 3 Pavilion Central, 38 High Street
Coventry - Poole Meadow Bus Station, Fairfax Street
Dudley - Bus Station, Fisher Street
Solihull - 2 Station Road
West Bromwich - West Bromwich Bus Station, St Michaels Street

2 for £10 admission to Banks's Brewery

National Express West Midlands have teamed up with Banks's Park Brewery Visitor Centre to offer you a brewery tour for two people for just £10 when travelling by bus.

Step inside the famous Victorian Park Brewery in Wolverhampton – home to Banks's since 1875. Discover the 100% natural ingredients that make Banks's cask ales and learn about the brewing process from mashing to fermentation. Complete your tour by sampling some of their delicious cask ales and pay a visit to the brewery shop to take the fresh taste home with you.

Shop opening times:
Mon-Fri 10.00am-5.00pm, Sat 9.30am-12 noon.
Tours must be pre-booked.
Visit www.bankssbeer.com
or call 01902 329653 for more details.

2 for £10 admission to Banks's Brewery

To take advantage of this offer you'll need to present this completed voucher together with your valid bus ticket or Travelcard at the Visitor Centre.

Full name:

First line of address:

Postcode: Year of birth:

Please complete your email address if you wish to receive offers and further information from National Express:

Email:

Terms and Conditions: Up to two persons allowed per voucher to Banks's Brewery. You must produce the appropriate number of National Express bus ticket or Travelcards. Acceptance of the voucher is strictly subject to the establishment's own terms and conditions and deemed accepted on admission. Offer valid until 30 September 2011. Offers may be withdrawn or subject to change without notice. Exchange or sale of the vouchers is prohibited. Photocopies are not accepted. Amended or defaced vouchers will not be accepted. Visitors are asked to wear suitable clothing and footwear. Limited access means the tour is not suitable for all. Full terms and conditions can be found either in-store or at nxwestmidlands.co.uk/comps

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